NMTI still unsure of opening date. PAGE 2
'$300 is burdensome for medical referral patients' PAGE 7

Hafa Adai!

75¢

Saipan Tribune

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CHC GETS A NEW PARKING LOT
The Commonwealth Healthcare Corp.'s new parking lot was completed last week, replacing the upper parking space of the Commonwealth Health Center, which is currently occupied by a temporary hospital, the Medical and Treatment Site that was built in case of a surge in COVID-19 cases in the CNMI. Earlier in May, the Department of Public Works was called upon by the COVID-19 Task Force to build a new parking lot to help expand CHC's parking space. The newly built parking lot, which sits adjacent to the hospital and can be seen on the left side going up the Navy Hill road, covers 6,000 square feet of space and fits a total of 136 cars.
NEIL FAMA

38th COVID-19 death in Guam

RENOVATION WORK
Hong Ye Construction continues with its work to renovate and repaint the part of the building that is home to Express Financial and TownHouse. The project supervisor said that the project began on Sept. 5, and is targeted to be completed by the end of the month.
NEIL FAMA

By JUSTINE NAUTA
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REPORTER

Guam reported its 38th COVID-19 death yesterday, a 76-year-old woman with underlying health conditions that were made worse by the virus.

According to a Joint Information Center statement, the latest fatality was already a patient at the Guam Memorial Hospital where she was transferred after testing positive last Sept. 18 at the Guam Regional

See 38TH on Page 4

AT A GLANCE
As of 6pm, Sept. 24, 2020

GUAM	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	2,190	45	2,235
Recovered	1,507	36	1,543
Active	610	45	655
Deaths	37	1	38
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			47,001

SAIPAN	OLD	NEW	TOTAL
Positive	69	0	69
Deaths	2	0	2
Cumulative Number of Persons Tested			19,345*

*Total count includes the number of persons tested on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. With guidance from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, CHCC has opted not to report active and recovered cases. The community-based testing has been temporarily suspended.

Source: Joint Information Center - Guam, Commonwealth Health Care Corp.

Torres: Guam's situation is 'very alarming'

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Although there has been little evidence so far of community transmission in the CNMI, its tally of positive COVID-19 cases had been slowly going up—oftentimes one at a time—mostly from passengers arriving from Guam, a

See TORRES on Page 4

Down to the wire on budget

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Faced with a Sept. 30 deadline to enact a budget for fiscal year 2021, the CNMI Senate may hold a special session tomorrow, Saturday, to pass its version of the budget and avoid a partial government shutdown.

A source said this developed as members of the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee failed to compromise yesterday and will continue their discussions this morning, Friday.

Saturday's planned special session, which will be at 1:30pm, will be held just to pass the version by the

See DOWN on Page 4

Denver appeals court eyes US citizenship issue

By COLLEEN SLEVIN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

RELATED NEWS
- 10th Circuit hears argument on birthright citizenship in US territories. **PAGE 6**

DENVER (AP)—Whether people who live in territories controlled by the U.S. automatically become citizens under a constitutional amendment that secured citizenship for freed slaves was a major focus of arguments Wednesday in a federal appeals court in Denver in a case seeking citizenship rights for residents of American Samoa.

American Samoa, a cluster of islands some 2,600 miles (4,184 kilometers) southwest of Hawaii, is the only U.S. territory where residents have no birthright

See DENVER on Page 4

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

INSIDE

BUSINESS
PHI Pharmacy is giving away prenatal vitamins for free at all its three locations on Saipan.
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WORLD
The Philippine president invokes before the United Nations a 2016 arbitration ruling against China.
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LIFE & STYLE
The Walt Disney Co. has further postponed its next mega-movies from Marvel.
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SCAN ME WITH A COMPATIBLE QR READER TO KEEP UPDATED ON ALL THE LATEST NEWS.

Local

NMTI still unsure of opening date

The tentative Oct. 5 date when the Northern Marianas Technical Institute will open is still up in the air.

Agnes McPhetres, NMTI's chief executive officer, said in an interview that they still have not made a decision at the special board meeting last Sept. 24, and the board and the administration will continue their discussion about the matter. McPhetres added that once the board is ready to reopen the school, they will open but they can't do that without funding. This will also be talked about the next time the board meets.

McPhetres sympathizes with not only the students who are calling and asking for applications to enroll in the institute but, more importantly, the students who are already registered even before the pandemic hit. She added that "NMTI still owe them to complete that level" of the module they are in.

When NMTI already has a fixed date to reopen, McPhetres said the instructors will be called back to work a week prior to their opening date to call students to see if they want to return and continue with their module. In fact, due to the many phone calls and students reaching out to her, McPhetres is certain that these students are more than willing to come back.

McPhetres gave an estimate of 200 to 300 students who are inquiring about the institute, and 100 students that have already been registered since January.

NMTI's Claus Bier, speaking as a private citizen, says that in his experience, it always pays in times like these for unemployed people to get training to better themselves and pursue other viable careers.

McPhetres earlier said that, if many of the CNMI's foreign workers, who are trained in a specific area that NMTI offers, leave, then there's more of an obligation to train more residents to take on that role.

NMTI inspection

NMTI has already passed one of two inspections by the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force. The second inspection will be this coming Tuesday, Sept. 29.

As of Sept. 24, NMTI has a total of 14 air purifiers that will be put in every classroom, four devices that emit sanitizing ultraviolet lights that will be used in the classroom and buses, and extra mask and sanitizers for students who need them, said Frank Rabauliman, NMTI's director of Administration and Finance.

According to Rabauliman, NMTI will be able to install the air purifiers in the classroom right next to the air conditioning so that when the air goes into the classroom, it will be sanitized by the air purifiers.

As for the UV lights, or violas, they will be used after every class is done. This will also be used in the institute's buses. According to Rabauliman, if you put the UV lights in the center of the classroom, it will sanitize an area of up to a 20 feet radius, and will take about 18 to 30 minutes, with the treatment being 99.9% effective.

According to NMTI's pandemic plan, instructors are required to wipe down all desks and tables in the classroom after every class. Additionally, instructors will have face shields, which are being ordered. ***(Justine Nauta)***

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS
CNMI GOVERNMENT

INVITATION TO BID
DPW/SWMD20-RFP-007

SUBMISSION DATE: October 20, 2020 TIME: 10:00 A.M.

"Material Recovery and Recycling Operations Saipan"

COPIES OF THE SPECIFICATIONS MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, LOCATED ON SECOND FLOOR, OLEAI JOETEN COMMERCIAL CENTER, SAN JOSE, SAIPAN, DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

A PRE-PROPOSAL Conference is scheduled on **September 29, 2020 AT 9:00 A.M., LOCAL TIME** AT THE Solid Waste Transfer Station Conference Room Lower Base.

QUESTIONS MUST BE MADE IN WRITING TO Blas T. Mafnas, Acting Director of Solid Waste Management Division **NO LATER THAN THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS October 8, 2020**. THESE QUESTIONS WILL BE ANSWERED WITHIN THREE (3) BUSINESS DAYS AND WILL BE SHARED WITH ALL PROPOSERS.

THE PROVISIONS OF THE CNMI PROCUREMENT REGULATIONS, NMIAC SECTION 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 PROHIBITING GRATUITIES, KICKBACKS AND CONTINGENT FEES SHALL APPLY.

THE CNMI GOVERNMENT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, OR PORTIONS THEREOF, AND WAIVE IMMATERIAL DEFECTS IF TO DO SO WOULD BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE CNMI GOVERNMENT.

/S/ PETER P. CAMACHO
ACTING SECRETARY OF PUBLIC WORKS

/S/ FRANCISCO C. AGUON
ACTING DIRECTOR, P&S

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

AMENDED REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-007-2020

FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE ECHO DOCK AT THE PORT OF SAIPAN

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (Authority) is inviting qualified developers and their development teams to submit sealed proposal, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal (the "RFP"), and other contract provisions, for the Development of the Echo Dock situated north of the Port of Saipan. The Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an Invitation for Bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the Authority because the Authority wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluate by cost alone (NMIAC §40-50-225(a)). This RFP is issued pursuant to Chapter 40-50 of the Northern Mariana Islands Administrative Code (the "NMIC"). Title 40, including chapter 40-50-225, Request for Proposals, is applicable to the process followed by the RFP.

The RFP Package is available beginning August 27, 2020, at the Authority's Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport upon payment of an administrative fee of $200.00 payable to the "Commonwealth Ports Authority". ***Payment shall be by cash or certified cashier's check.***

The Authority will hold a briefing for interested parties at 10:00 a.m. on September 16, 2020, to explain the Authority's development objectives, the RFP process, and to answer questions. The meeting will be held at the Authority's Seaport Conference Room, George Fleming Building. All potential applicants are encouraged to attend. All proposers are requested to pay attention to the following significant dates and times:

Deadline to submit Notice of Intent	September 28, 2020 (4:00 PM)
Deadline to submit Statement of Qualifications	October 13, 2020 (4:00 PM)
Notification of qualified applicants of the RFP	October 28, 2020
Deadline for RFP submission	November 30, 2020 (4:00 PM)

Qualified proposers shall submit their proposals sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: "Proposal for the Development of the Echo Dock, Saipan (RFP-007-20). Five (5) hard copies and one CD of the proposal must be submitted no later than ***4:00 p.m. Local Time, November 30, 2020***, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date:_____

Child Passenger Safety Week

September 20-26, 2020 (Child Passenger Safety Week)
September 26, 2020 (National Seat Check Saturday)

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICIAL SEAL

Secure their future.

Always seat them in correct car seat.

Car Seat Recommendations: Choosing the Right Seat

REAR-FACING CAR SEAT

Your child under age 1 should always ride in a rear-facing car seat in the back seat. There are different types of rear-facing car seats: Infant-only seats can only be used rear-facing.

Convertible and 3-in-1 car seats typically have higher height and weight limits for the rear-facing position, allowing you to keep your child rear-facing for a longer period of time.

A rear-facing car seat is the best seat for your young child to use. It has a harness and in a crash, cradles and moves with your child to reduce the stress to the child's fragile neck and spinal cord.

FORWARD-FACING CAR SEAT

Keep your child rear-facing as long as possible. It's the best way to keep him or her safe. Your child should remain in a rear-facing car seat until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the rear-facing car seat, your child is ready to travel in a forward- facing car seat with a harness in the back seat.

A forward-facing car seat has a harness and tether that limits your child's forward movement during a crash.

BOOSTER SEAT

Keep your child in a forward-facing car seat with a harness until he or she reaches the top height or weight limit allowed by your car seat's manufacturer. Once your child outgrows the forward- facing car seat with a harness, it's time to travel in a booster seat, but still in the back seat.

A booster seat positions the seat belt so that it fits properly over the stronger parts of your child's body.

SEAT BELT

Keep your child in a booster seat until he or she is big enough to fit in a seat belt properly. For a seat belt to fit properly the lap belt must lie snugly across the upper thighs, not the stomach. The shoulder belt should lie snug across the shoulder and chest and not cross the neck or face. Remember: your child should still ride in the back seat because it's safer there.

A seat belt should lie across the upper thighs and be snug across the shoulder and chest to restrain the child safely in a crash. It should not rest on the stomach area or across the neck.

Reduce the risk of death and injury by properly securing your child. To maximize safety, keep your child in the car seat for as long as possible.

Car crashes are a **leading killer of children** ages 1 to 13.

In crashes from 2011-2015, **3,194 children** (under 13 in cars, SUVs, vans, and pick-ups) were killed. An estimated **599,000 children** under 13 were injured.

That's more than the population of Albuquerque, NM.

In 2015, **662 children** (under 13 in cars, SUVs, vans, and pick-ups) were killed in crashes.

Of those killed, more than **1 in 3** were unrestrained .

Car seats reduce the risk of infants (under 1 year old) being killed in cars by **71%**

Car seats reduce the risk of toddlers (1 to 4 years old) being killed in cars by **54%**

For assistance on car seat installation, please contact DPS-Highway Safety Office at 664-9125 or 483-5817 for an appointment.

For more information call CNMI Department of Public Safety.
SAIPAN 664-9125/9084/85 | TINIAN 433-9222/2041 | ROTA 532-9433/9530
www.dps.gov.mp

NHTSA
NATIONAL HIGHWAY TRAFFIC SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

At UN, Palau speaks to interconnected world

AP

In this image made from UNTV video, Tommy Esang Remengesau Jr., President of Palau, speaks in a pre-recorded message which was played during the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly, Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020, at UN headquarters in New York.

UNITED NATIONS (AP)— As one of the smallest countries on earth, the Pacific island nation of Palau doesn't always get to command the world's attention.

But every nation gets to take the world stage at the U.N. General Assembly's premier annual meeting, and Palau President Tommy E. Remengesau Jr. used his turn Wednesday to illuminate the toll of the coronavirus pandemic, even for a country without any cases of COVID-19. He also pressed environmental issues and made the point that no nation is an island unto itself in the international system, especially during a pandemic.

While Palau has been free of the virus, "we are certainly not free of the consequences of this pandemic," Remengesau said by video at a global gathering gone virtual because of the scourge. He said it had inflicted "a level of isolation we have not known for many, many years."

Palau has been struggling to keep food and medicine flowing in, to provide some medical treatment for which residents usually travel to larger countries, and to contend with private-sector unemployment now approaching 50%, the president said.

The country needs financial support and equitable access to potential vaccines, he stressed: "In a global community, parts of the world cannot be made safe in isolation."

Palau is a biodiversity hotspot about 600 miles (970 kilometers) miles east of the Philippines, with 20,000 people scattered across a 250-island tropical archipelago. It was administered by the United States for half a century before gaining independence in 1994. A compact with the U.S. governs economic and other relations, and U.S. Defense Secretary Mark Esper visited Palau last month in a first for any American defense chief and a reflection of U.S.-Chinese competition for influence in the Pacific.

Palau, like the U.S., is one of only 15 states with official diplomatic relations with Taiwan, the self-governing island that China claims as its own territory. Remengesau argued that tensions that have kept Taiwan from participating in the World Health Assembly in recent years have "made the world less safe," as Taiwan has won praise for its handling of the virus.

In a year when the coronavirus is absorbing much of the world's attention, Remengesau implored leaders not to lose sight of another priority: "repairing our relationship with nature" by tackling ocean pollution, overfishing, climate change and loss of biodiversity.

Palau has banned many types of sunscreen in an effort to protect coral reefs. Marine scientists have said some chemicals can be toxic to such reefs, although some critics question whether there's been enough research to support prohibiting the products.

Palau also recently made almost all its coastal waters a marine sanctuary, where no fishing or mining is allowed. Remengesau said he hoped that move "will inspire ambition elsewhere."

"We are all ocean people" on a planet where the seas provide food, help regulate the climate and serve as trade routes and natural defenses, noted Remengesau, who wore a shell necklace as he spoke.

After serving 16 of the last 20 years as Palau's president, he plans to further his own bond with the ocean when his current term is up in January.

"I will return to being a fisherman in Palau's pristine waters," he said.

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Lee Pan resolution opposes Settlement Fund trustee's pay raise

FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

Rep. Joseph Lee Pan Guerrero (R-Saipan) has introduced a House of Representatives resolution to oppose the pay raise of NMI Settlement Fund trustee Joyce C. H. Tang and to request the CNMI government to act on the matter.

During Tuesday's House session, Commonwealth Casino Commission commissioner Mariano Taitano expressed support for the resolution and urged that Tang be replaced with a Saipan-based lawyer. Taitano addressed the House mostly in Chamorro.

After Taitano, Guerrero also discussed his resolution in the same vernacular.

The House did not act on the resolution.

The resolution states that, given the COVID-19 pandemic situation, it is not in the best interest of the CNMI to be giving increases to any official who is being paid using taxpayer dollars.

Tang lives in Guam, which Guerrero believes adds costs to the Settlement Fund for travel, room, board, and transportation. As a cost-saving measure, he said, it would be appropriate to appoint a lawyer who lives within the CNMI.

"Such measure, as well as the additional pay raise, can lead to additional financial resources that can be used to aid those individuals who are earning less than other recipients," he said.

U.S. District Court for the NMI designated Judge Frances Tydingco-Gatewood already approved on June 11, 2019, Tang's pay increase from $250 an hour to $350 an hour. Tydingco-Gatewood further ordered the Settlement Fund to pay Tang $108,890, which represents 90% of the trustee's professional fees and all expenses incurred in December 2019 through July 2020. As for the remaining 10% of the fees and expenses incurred, the judge ordered an additional sum of $11,525 to be paid to Tang. Tydingco-Gatewood also ordered the Settlement Fund to pay Tang $7,397, which represents 10% of the retainer withheld from invoices from May 2019 through October 2019. The judge gave a 10-day period for Betty Johnson and her counsel, and the counsel for the CNMI government to state any objections.

Guerrero said that Tang's justification for her increase is solely based on the positive growth of the stock market at that time. He noted, though, that the growth is not attributed to Tang's legal services to the Settlement Fund.

He said pay increases are highly unfeasible at thid time as the CNMI faces this "intangible force that seems to affect the entire world in one way or another."

Rep. Tina Sablan (D-Saipan) said they should see first the court records to understand the work that Tang did on behalf of the Settlement Fund before they rush to make statements that could be seen as political interference.

Sablan said she is also concerned about Tang's request to raise her fees, but that she does recognize that the court has already approved those fees and found them to be reasonable.

As to the issue why a Guam attorney is serving as trustee ad litem for the Settlement Fund, the lawmaker said this is an issue the arose years ago when this class action lawsuit was first filed by retirees in federal court. At the time, there was no local attorney or no Saipan attorney that did not have some kind of conflict of interest, she said.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

Court grants release of man accused of strangling wife

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has granted the second request of a man accused of strangling his wife to modify bail.

Superior Court Associate Judge Joseph N. Camacho approved the second request of Guangchao Li to post a $10,000 unsecured bond and to be released to his sister, who has volunteered to serve as his third-party custodian.

Li's sister swore to the court that she would call the police if Li does not follow court-imposed release conditions. She assured the court that she also understands that she will be held liable if Li does not show up for his scheduled hearings. Li was then released to his sister after surrendering his passport to the Office of the Attorney General.

Li was arrested and detained for allegedly assaulting his wife over an altercation involving a cellphone. He is charged with assault and battery, strangulation, assault, and disturbing the peace.

Initially, the court denied Li's request for bail modification because he had no third-party custodian, keeping the initially imposed $10,000 cash bail.

Li is scheduled to return to court on Sept. 28 at 9am.

According to court documents, Li grabbed his wife's right arm tightly and pushed her to the floor. She said Li punched her on her right shoulder then wrapped both of his hands around her neck tightly, holding her to the ground.

According to the victim, she has been separated from Li for over a year now due to past instances when he also harmed her.

DENVER

From Page 1

claim to citizenship.

Instead, they are granted "U.S. national" status, meaning they can't vote for U.S. president, run for office outside American Samoa or apply for certain jobs. The only federal election they can cast a vote in is the race for American Samoa's nonvoting U.S. House seat.

In December, a federal judge in Utah ruled in favor of three residents of American Samoa who challenged their status, concluding they were citizens under the 14th Amendment adopted after the Civil War. U.S. District Judge Clark Waddoups stopped his ruling from taking effect while the governments of the United States and American Samoa appealed his decision to the Denver-based 10th Circuit Court of Appeals.

About 55,000 people live in the territory but the ultimate decision will also affect an estimated 160,000 nationals who live in the states, largely concentrated in California, Hawaii, Washington, Utah and Alaska.

The U.S. maintains that the 14th Amendment's grant of citizenship to those born "in the United States" does not apply to its territories. It also claims citizenship is a decision that should be left to Congress, noting that it has granted those rights in other territories such as Puerto Rico and Guam. The government of American Samoa worries automatic citizenship would hurt its traditional culture, which includes prayer curfews and communal land ownership.

However, lawyer Matthew McGill told a three-judge panel during online arguments that the current system makes the lead plaintiff in the case, John Fitisemanu, a "modern day Dred Scott" who cannot vote or serve on a jury, referencing the Supreme Court decision denying citizenship to descendants of slaves that the 14th Amendment nullified. He said the Reconstruction-era Congress wanted to take the question of who was a citizen "out of politics" forever through the amendment.

Judge Carlos Lucero said it was important to him whether the people of American Samoa want to be citizens. He noted that the 1848 treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the war between the United States and Mexico and which gave the United States control of Western land, including current day Colorado and Utah, gave people there two years to decide whether or not to become citizens of the United States or Mexico.

"That is a pretty harsh position to take assuming they don't want citizenship," Lucero told McGill.

However, Judge Robert E. Bacharach questioned whether elected leaders' views on who should be citizens should trump the Constitution's protections for citizenship, noting that that democratically elected leaders in the pre-war South also supported the Dred Scott court ruling.

DOWN

From Page 1

whole Senate.

Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee chair Sen. Jude U. Hofschneider (R-Tinian) said Wednesday that if the bill is satisfactory to the committee, then they are going to adopt it at the Senate session.

On Tuesday, the House of Representatives adopted the Senate's version of the House concurrent resolution that proposes $96.47 million in available revenue and resources for appropriation for government activities in fiscal year 2021.

The Senate's version is $13.81 million more from what the House had originally adopted in the concurrent resolution that proposes $82.65 million for appropriation.

The Senate must pass its own fiscal year 2021 budget version and transmit it to the House for its acceptance or rejection. If the House passes it on Monday, that leaves the administration of Gov. Ralph DLG Torres little more than two days to review the budget bill for enactment.

The CNMI government must enact a new and balanced budget before Oct. 1 to avoid a partial government shutdown.

The CNMI government used to be allowed to go into continuing resolution if no budget is enacted on time. That means the CNMI government would automatically operate using the previous budget law. However, after successive continuing resolutions in the mid-2000s, the Legislature amended the law such that failure to enact a budget bill would result in a government shutdown. That was supposedly intended to pressure lawmakers and the Executive Branch to enact a budget bill on time each year.

Last July 1, Gov. Ralph DLG. Torres submitted a revised revenue projection in the amount of $144.41 million. Of this amount, the governor approved $82.65 million for government appropriation.

Last July 29, the House adopted House Concurrent Resolution 21-2 authored by House Ways and Means chair Rep. Ivan Blanco (R-Saipan). The resolution basically concurs with Torres' revised budget proposal for fiscal year 2021 in the amount of $82.65 million.

38TH

From Page 1

Medical City. She was pronounced dead yesterday at about 6:55am

Guam Gov. Lou Leon Guerrero expressed her deep condolences in the same JIC statement. "As the dawn broke and many of us were starting our day, we lost our 38th individual to COVID-19. As an island still in mourning, her passing is a great loss to our community. To those she cherished, [first gentleman] Jeff [Cook], Lt. Gov. Josh [Tenorio], and I send our condolences and our collective hearts are heavy with sympathy," said Leon Guerrero.

In a time like this, Leon Guerrero said, the island needs more unity and not division, that everyone on the island has a role in stopping the virus and prevent more deaths. "Our front-liners need our help. Wear your masks, social distance, and stay home—these simple actions can make a big difference."

Guam's death toll in one week alone has become a grim tally that seem to add one per day. Its 37th death was a 52-year-old female with underlying conditions that were compounded by COVID-19. She was admitted to GMH last Sept. 5 and tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 upon admission. She was pronounced dead last Sept. 22 at about 2:18pm at GMH.

Before her, Guam's 36th death was a 65-year-old man who was a known COVID-19 case. He was transferred to GMH from GRMC on Aug. 21, and succumbed last Sept. 22 at about 1:08pm.

Guam also saw its 35th death this week—a 56-year-old man with underlying health conditions that were compounded by COVID-19. He was pronounced dead on arrival last Sept. 20 at approximately 9:45pm at the GRMC. He was swabbed and tested positive for SARS-CoV-2 upon arrival on Sept. 20.

COVID-19 on Saipan

According to United Airlines Saipan station manager Dave Baker, any United aircraft that arrives on the days that the CNMI is accepting flights is decontaminated after every passenger gets off, and that that they have also implemented electrostatic spraying. A fine mist comes out of the electrostatic spray and onto every surface, top to bottom, of the aircraft. Baker said that they spray the seats, overhead bins, and anything that's being touched on the airplane, which includes the seats, seatbelt, window shades.

According to Baker, the decontamination spraying of the aircraft takes about 10 minutes, which is then left to dry. POI Aviation is also involved with the aircraft cleaning.

TORRES

From Page 1

situation that Gov. Ralph DLG Torres finds "very alarming."

Speaking at a recent radio news briefing, Torres said the COVID-19 infection rate in Guam is "very alarming" and that he wants to see how the CNMI can help its neighbor. Guam has over 2,000 positive cases and over 30 fatalities.

"And that's just 130 miles south of us!" said the governor, adding that, as the CNMI continues to fight COVID-19, he urged the Commonwealth to also look at ways on how to help "our brothers and sisters in Guam."

Torres again expressed gratitude to the CNMI community for believing in his administration, the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and its operation, first responders, the hospital's chief executive officer, Esther Muña, COVID-19 Task Force chair Warren Villagomez, and the business sector, as the Commonwealth continues to fight the pandemic.

"And I always said it, we're all fighting COVID-19 together, not against each other. That's one of the reasons, the strongest reason, for us that we [have] the lowest [infection rate]," said Torres, noting that CNMI has had only 61 positive cases so far and that more than half are arriving passengers.

"It is important and I acknowledge and thank again the community because without…everyone['s cooperation] we would not be as safe as we are here today," the governor said.

He said it's not a perfect system, but the people are all fighting against COVID-19, which is the strongest message and practice that the CNMI has since the onset of the pandemic.

SELECTED SAIPAN SOUVENIRS

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10th Circuit hears argument on birthright citizenship in US territories

Whether people born in U.S. territories have a constitutional right to U.S. citizenship will depend on how the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 10th Circuit rules following argument yesterday in *Fitisemanu v. United States*. Because of COVID-19, arguments in the case were done by video conference rather than in-person, with each of the judges and attorneys in the case participating via Zoom.

"While I would have liked to be in the courtroom while the judges were considering whether or not I have a right to U.S. citizenship based on my birth on U.S. soil in American Samoa, I'm glad I was able to at least listen in to the audio," said John Fitisemanu following the argument. "After hearing the arguments, I'm optimistic the court will recognize that I am a U.S. citizen, not simply a U.S. national—it's time to bring an end to this second-class status."

"Each of the judges were engaged and interested in the case," said Matthew D. McGill, a partner at Gibson Dunn, who argued on behalf of the *Fitisemanu* plaintiffs before the 10th Circuit. "Ultimately, the Constitution is clear that if you are born on U.S. soil—whether in state or territory—you have a right to citizenship."

"Addressing some of the points that came up at argument, the historical record is clear that for nearly 60 years American Samoans pushed hard to be recognized as full U.S. citizens. And today, American Samoans are citizens of nowhere based on the federal government's unconstitutional denial of citizenship to people born in American Samoa," said Charles Ala'ilima, a prominent American Samoa attorney who also represents the *Fitisemanu* plaintiffs. "Equally important, recognition of citizenship would not have an impact on the preservation of American Samoan land and culture."

"It was disappointing, but not surprising, to see the U.S. Department of Justice continue to rely on the racist *Insular Cases* to argue that people born in U.S. territories have no right to citizenship," said Neil Weare, co-counsel for the *Fitisemanu* plaintiffs and president and founder of Equally American, which advocates for equality and civil rights for the nearly 4 million Americans living in U.S. territories. "As the Supreme Court said in June, the *Insular Cases* should not be expanded, so I'm hopeful the 10th Circuit will follow that command here and rule in our client's favor."

Photo shows John Fitisemanu, who is one of the plaintiffs in *Fitisemanu v. United States*.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

However the 10th Circuit rules, the case is likely to be appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court.

Audio of the argument will be available at https://www.ca10.uscourts.gov/oralargument/search/recent.

More information about *Fitisemanu v. United States* is available at http://www.equalrightsnow.org/fitisemanu. ***(PR)***

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910(a), the Sixteenth CNMI State Board of Education hereby gives notice that there will be a Regular Board Meeting on Tuesday, September 29, 2020 at 9:00 a.m. via teleconference at meet.google.com/xad-pqhw-zmj.

AGENDA[1]

I. Preliminary
1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Agenda
4. Adoption of Minutes
   a. July 28, 2020 Special Board Meeting
   b. September 11, 2020 Special Board Meeting

II. Public Comments[2]

III. Reports
1. Chair's Report
2. Committee Reports
   a. CIP
   b. FPA
   c. ISA
   d. LIA
   e. SICPP
   f. SARC
3. Commissioner of Education
   a. Teacher of the Year Recognition
   b. Financial Status Reports
      i. Federal
      ii. Local
   c. Head Start Program
   d. Others

IV. Unfinished Business
1. FY2021 Revised Budget

V. New Business
1. Francisco M. Sablan Middle School
2. Da'ok Academy
3. William S. Reyes Elementary School
4. Personnel Report - HRO
5. Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) and Leave Form
6. Certification & Licensure Matters
   a. CLO Report No. 2020-16-005
   b. Salary Adjustment
   c. Applications

VI. Executive Session[3]
1. Legal Updates
2. Personnel
3. Other matters

VII. Discussion of Agenda for next Board meeting

VIII. Adjournment

[1] In the event that the items on the agenda are not completed, the meeting will recess and reconvene on the following day or at the most expeditious date and time determined by the Board.

[2] Pursuant to BOE Policy 0415, public comments are limited to 30 minutes. We ask that remarks be limited to 3 minutes each. Everyone is welcomed to submit written comments.

[3] Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9912, the Board may vote to meet in executive session at any time.

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AGENDA

***** September 30, 2020 *****

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres and Lt. Governor Arnold I. Palacios, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commission's 2nd Floor Main Conference Room at the Springs Plaza in Gualo Rai, Saipan. However, pursuant to Governor Torres' Executive Orders and Directives on the ongoing threat from the COVID-19 pandemic and the limited space available, access to the Commission's meeting will be available via video-conference.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
A. Call to Order
B. Roll Call
C. Adoption of Agenda
D. Adoption of Minutes: August 27, 2020

II. REPORTS:
A. Report by the Chairman
B. Report by the Acting Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:
A. Casino Licensee – Imperial Pacific International (CNMI), LLC ("IPI") – Updates:
1. Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel ("IPR"). Update on the construction project
2. IPI Personnel:
   a) Organizational Chart Update
   b) Resident Employment Objectives
   c) Status of Employee Payroll
   d) Status of Employee Housing
3. IPI Financial Matters.
   a) Annual Casino License Fee
   b) Casino Regulatory Fee

B. Other Miscellaneous Matters

V. OLD BUSINESS:
A. Update on House Bill No. 21-11, HS1, SD1, SD2, & SD3
B. Update on IPI's compliance with Commission Order No. 2020-003 and No. 2020-004 and IPI's request for a hearing.
C. Other Old Business Matters

VI. NEW BUSINESS:
A. Casino Junket Operator License Applications – Renewal (2-years):
1. **High Tides (CNMI), LLC.** Mr. Dong Jiming. Current license issued on 9/24/2018 will expire on 9/25/2020.
2. **Stellar Paradise, LLC.** Mr. Ma Hongyi. Current license issued on 9/24/2018 will expire on 9/25/2020.
3. **Bula Mula, LLC.** Ms. Zhang Hong. Current license issued on 9/24/2018 will expire on 9/25/2020.

B. Application for a Casino Key Employee (CKE) License (2-years):
1. **Mr. Donald Browne.** Application for a Casino Key Employee (CKE) license as IPI's new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). Previous position held with IPI was Senior Vice President that will expire on 04/25/2021.

C. Other New Business Matters

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
A. Report by Legal Counsel.
B. Report by the CCC Audit and Compliance Division.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this agenda and take action on the amended Agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910 (b). Pursuant to 1 CMC §9912 (a)(7) and 1 CMC §9912 (c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary. For those interested in joining or attending the meeting via the video conference, please contact the Commission at info@cnmicasinocommission.com for instructions on how to log-in to the conference site.

/s/ Edward C. DeLeon Guerrero
Chairman

Kilili to Torres: Don't cut food aid

WASHINGTON, D.C.— Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (Ind-MP) asked Gov. Ralph Torres yesterday not to cut food aid for Marianas families on Oct. 1.

In a letter to the delegate on Aug. 26, the governor threatened to cut aid to some of the 5,169 families now enrolled in the Commonwealth's Nutrition Assistance Program, unless Congress appropriates $11.5 million.

» House adds Marianas to Pandemic EBT program

In a response to the governor, Sablan said that cutting aid in the middle of the economic downturn caused by the coronavirus would be a terrible hardship on these families. He urged Torres to be compassionate, at least, to March next year, when the $23 million the Commonwealth currently has available might run out.

Sablan also updated the governor on Wednesday's action by Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives to include the Marianas in a special Pandemic EBT program, providing food assistance to families with school children. The change is part of the must-pass continuing resolution to fund the federal government through Dec. 11.

The Pandemic EBT program will require a plan of action from the governor but is expected to provide from $12 to $16 million to the Commonwealth.

The program was set up in the Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and did not include American Samoa, Puerto Rico, or the Marianas, because those areas do not have EBT, electronic benefits transfer, systems. Instead, the Families First Act in May and the CARES Act in March provided the Commonwealth with $1.86 million for food assistance—money, Sablan noted, that the governor had not accounted for when deciding to cut benefits on Oct. 1. ***(PR)***

Public invited to Suicide Prevention Forum

In support of Suicide Prevention Month, the University of Guam's I Pinangon Campus Suicide Prevention Program will be hosting its annual Suicide Prevention Forum to educate the community on the topics of suicide and suicide prevention. The forum will be held from 6pm to 8pm on Wednesday, Sept. 30, via Zoom. The forum is free for the public to tune into.

Under the theme "Diversity, Social Justice, and Suicide Prevention," the forum will provide a unique perspective on how diversity and social justice are connected to suicide and suicide prevention in Guam and the Micronesian region.

The keynote speaker is Guam Sen. Amanda Shelton.

Those interested in tuning into the forum via Zoom can register at https://url.uog.edu/suicide-prevention. For more information, call (671) 735-2883 or email ipinangon@triton.uog.edu. ***(PR)***

‘$300 is burdensome for medical referral patients’

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Increasing the COVID-19 polymerase chain reaction testing fee from $50 to $300 for outbound passengers places an undue burden on people, most especially on medical referral patients who are already in a state of need, according to Sen. Teresita A. Santos (Ind-Rota).

Santos

Santos appealed Tuesday to Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. chief executive officer Esther L. Muña and the CHCC management to reconsider their decision and instead maintain the old fee of $50 per test.

“We must not forget that other ailments have not stopped for COVID-19,” said the senator in her letter to Muña.

CCC does not necessarily require outbound passengers to obtain PCR testing, but advised that other countries where they may visit need such a test. Also, CHCC cited an increasing number of people going on non-essential travel and asking to be tested, which puts an added strain on CHCC’s resources, to explain the fee increase.

Santos said the Medical Referral Program continues to receive patients in need of off-island medical care, sometimes in destinations requiring patients to undergo COVID-19 testing prior to their arrival. Therefore, she pointed out, for certain patients, PRC testing is requirement of their treatment.

At $300 per test, Santos said, the testing fee exceeds the level of assistance given to Medical Referral patients as well as their escorts, whose stipends have been suspended since March this year. Santos said insurance providers offer no relief from this fee as both public and private insurance do not cover COVID-19 testing. In sum, she said, the $300 fee poses a significant barrier to health care access to Medical Referral patients.

“It is important that we do our best increase access to health care for our residents, especially during the current public health emergency,” Santos said.

The senator did praise CHCC for their “tremendous efforts during the current public health emergency.”

Despite the constant threat of COVID-19, the CNMI community remain safe, she said, largely because of the dedicated staff and management of CHCC and the Governor’s COVID-19 Task Force.

Man allegedly beats girlfriend for saying ‘what’

By KIMBERLY A. BAUTISTA
kimberly_bautista@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A man was arrested for allegedly beating his girlfriend after she allegedly angered him by saying “what” when he asked her a question.

Henry Euphresia Enis, 26, allegedly beat up his girlfriend while she was holding their newborn child, who has spinal muscular atrophy.

Enis is currently charged with assault and battery, strangulation, and disturbing the peace.

Enis appeared before Superior Court Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio for a bail hearing last Tuesday. Kim-Tenorio imposed a $20,000 cash bail and remanded Enis back to the custody of the Department of Corrections.

Enis was ordered to return to court for a preliminary hearing on Sept. 28 at 2:30pm. His arraignment is on Oct. 19 at 9am.

According to court documents, police responded to a disturbing the peace incident at the couple’s residence back on Sept. 21. The victim told police that she was in the kitchen washing dishes when Enis confronted her and asked her what she had said to him, to which she replied; “Nothing. I didn’t say anything besides saying ‘what,’” she said.

Enis then allegedly used his left elbow to hit her right shoulder, causing her to feel pain and made her eyesight blurry.

Later, the victim said she told Enis that she was going to her mom’s house in Oleai. The victim said Enis approached her while she was carrying their son, who had a medical condition, and punched, slapped, and kicked her.

She told police that she does not know which hand or foot he used, as he was blocking her face and she was protecting her son. When she managed to put her son down, she said Enis pulled her hair and dragged her on the floor, scraping her left knee. The victim said Enis also used his left hand to squeeze her neck, making it hard for her to breathe.

The victim told police that she had never reported her boyfriend for previous incidents, but this time she was just fed up.

In an interview with Enis, he admitted to punching, kicking, and slapping his girlfriend because she had said something to piss him off.

Emergency water outages on Texas Road, San Jose Beach Road, parts of Chalan Kiya, Oleai

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. would like to inform the public that there is an emergency water service interruption currently in effect for the areas of Texas Road, entire San Jose Beach Road to the former Saipan Mayor’s Office (Ladera Center) and the areas from the Chalan Kiya Mobil gas station to the traffic light near Atkins Kroll Toyota.

The water outage is due to a 16-inch mainline break located on the eastbound lane on Chalan Monsignor Guerrero in Chalan Kiya. Water service to the affected areas is anticipated to be completed today, Sept. 25, 2020, at 12pm. Water service the affected areas will resume soon after.

For the safety of the men and women at the jobsite, CUC advises the public to exercise caution or to take alternative routes as the outer eastbound lane will closed for the duration of the repair.

CUC continues to work diligently to minimize any inconvenience to its customers. For more information, contact the CUC Customer Call Center (664-4282) or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates. ***(PR)***

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION

As of September 25, 2020

THE FOLLOWING IS A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT OF COASTAL PERMIT APPLICATIONS RECEIVED BY THE DCRM OFFICE:

APPLICANT	DATE APPLICATION RECEIVED	APPLICATION PROJECT DESCRIPTION	LOCATION	TYPE	STATUS
1. Bisnes-Mami Saipan, Inc. dba NAPA Auto & Truck Parts	08/21/2020 SW-2020-X-076	Expansion of Warehouse & Loading Dock with Additional Parking	San Jose, Saipan	Wetland	Approved* 09/09/2020
2. Commonwealth Ports Authority	09/03/2020 RPIm-2020-X-0903	Rota Commercial Small Boat Marina	West Harbor, Rota	Ports & Industrial	Approved* 09/22/2020
3. Office of Representative Roman Benavente, 21st House of Representatives of the CNMI	09/04/2020 SSm-2020-X-077	Construction of One Beach Pala-Pala Structure	Laolao Beach Area, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 09/15/2020
4. Office of Representative Roman Benavente, 21st House of Representatives of the CNMI	09/04/2020 SSm-2020-X-078	Construction of Three Beach Pala-Pala Structures	Obyan Beach Area, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 09/15/2020
5. Office of Representative Roman Benavente, 21st House of Representatives of the CNMI	09/04/2020 SSm-2020-X-079	Construction of Two Beach Pala-Pala Structures	San Antonio Beach Area, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 09/15/2020
6. Office of the Vice Speaker, 21st House of Representatives of the CNMI Honorable Lorenzo I. Deleon Guerrero	09/04/2020 SSm-2020-X-080	Construction of One Beach Pala-Pala Structure	Laolao Beach Area, Saipan	Shoreline	Approved* 09/15/2020
7. Office of the Mayor of Tinian	09/17/2020 TSm-2020-X-012	Installation of Perimeter Fence	Taga Beach Area, Tinian	Shoreline	Approved* 09/21/2020
8. Office of the Mayor of Tinian	09/10/2020 TSm-2020-X-013	Installation of Bollards	Taga Beach Area, Tinian	Shoreline	Under Review*
9. Office of Representative John Paul Palacios Sablan, 21st House of Representatives of the CNMI	09/23/2020 SSm-2020-X-052, Amendment 2020-1	Two Additional Beach Pala-Pala Structures	Susupe-Chalan Kanoa, Saipan	Shoreline	Under Review*

NMIAC §15-10-210 of the CRM Rules and Regulations requires all permit applications to be published in a newspaper for general circulation within the CNMI within 15 days of receipt of application. The list reflects recently received permit applications and those with a recent change in status. New applications are marked with an asterisk (*).

The Public is invited to submit written comments regarding any of the above projects for which a permit decision has not been issued. All permit comments should identify the project by application number. Your comments should be mailed or hand-delivered to the DCRM Office. All persons who desire a public hearing regarding any project may do so by submitting a written request for a public hearing to the DCRM Office within fourteen (14) days for minor permits (APCs) and proposed amended major sitings. Public Hearings are required for all new major siting projects. All public hearing notices are published in a local newspaper of general circulation. Residents of Rota and Tinian may submit comments and hearing requests to their local DCRM Coordinator. Persons wishing to retain the right to appeal a DCRM Permit decision must file a notice of appeal with the DCRM office within thirty (30) days of the issuance of the DCRM permit decision as provided in Part 200 § 15-10-235 of the DCRM Regulations.

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Opinion

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Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Lioness

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, the liberal lioness of the U.S. Supreme Court who died Friday at 87, was a fierce advocate for equality and justice long before she joined the nation's highest court.

She was also diminutive and soft spoken, a fan of fancy feminine judicial collars, and someone who was quick to make friends, even with her judicial adversaries.

These were not contradictory qualities in Justice Ginsburg's eyes. Advancing the cause of American ideals means understanding your opponent's argument and point of view, she believed. Making the most persuasive cases requires listening to the other side.

When she graduated with top grades from Columbia Law School, she couldn't get a job at a New York law firm because, as she said, she was Jewish, she was a woman and she was a mother. Instead, she took a teaching job and had time to devote to work fighting for women's equality.

Long before she had a seat of her own on the court, the future Justice Ginsburg famously persuaded an all-male U.S. Supreme Court to see things her way in a string of landmark victories for equal rights, including one ruling that declared the equal protection clause of the 14th Amendment applies to gender. She did it with a strategy that showed the justices how gender discrimination affected men, too.

When President Bill Clinton appointed her to the court in 1993, she quickly distinguished herself as a justice who attempted to build consensus for her opinions and, when she failed to do so, would write blistering dissents that often became better known than the majority opinions.

Justice Ginsburg's judicial polar opposite for most of her court tenure, conservative stalwart Antonin Scalia, became her "best buddy," as she called him. They shared a love of opera, a reverence for the law and a deep respect for each other. They disagreed—fervently most of the time—on just about everything else.

She did not see this as an obstacle to friendship or as a barrier to a constructive working relationship.

Ruth Bader Ginsburg leaves us a multifaceted legacy—one of perseverance and of fighting to ensure all Americans enjoy the rights and freedoms our Constitution guarantees. But it is this understanding that we can disagree passionately without dehumanizing each other that means the most in these polarized times.

(c) 2020 *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*

Trump administration committed to prosperity in the US Virgin Islands

Editor's Note: Originally published in The Virgin Islands Consortium *on Sept. 18, 2020.*

By DOUGLAS W. DOMENECH
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Douglas W. Domenech is Interior's Assistant Secretary for Insular and International Affairs. For more about Interior's Office of Insular Affairs, visit www.doi.gov/oia, follow @ ASIIADomenech, or like OIA on Facebook.

In 2017, as a member of the Virgin Islands of the United States Centennial Commission, I had the pleasure of participating in the 100th anniversary celebration of the transfer of administration of the territory from the Danish government to the United States. Then-Secretary of the Interior Ryan Zinke presented a statement of congratulations from President Trump in ceremonies both in St. Croix and in St. Thomas. It was a memorable day of music, speeches, and celebration.

Today, five territories including the U.S. Virgin Islands, enjoy the benefits of being a part of the U.S. family, including citizenship in the greatest country in the world and protection provided by the U.S. military. More than that, we are a family and, just like any family, when one member suffers, we come to each other's aid.

In response to the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) pandemic, President Trump worked with the U.S. Congress and USVI's leadership to direct a historic amount of funding to support response efforts. The President mobilized 42 federal agencies and provided millions of dollars of support to USVI's citizens, health care services, government, and schools. Over $292 million in COVID-19 funds was provided to support the government of the Virgin Islands through the Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs and other federal agencies. This funding is being used for COVID-19 preparation and response activities, including the purchase of personal protective equipment and respirators, support for health care workers, and improvements to hospitals.

Through a strong partnership, and at the request of Gov. Albert Bryan, the President declared a national emergency for the U.S. Virgin Islands on March 13, 2020, authorizing direct federal assistance for the territory. On April 2, 100% funding of the emergency activities provided by the USVI National Guard personnel was authorized. On April 24, President Trump authorized unprecedented economic relief to the USVI for small businesses, workers, and health care providers through the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES Act), Families First Coronavirus Response Act, and the Coronavirus Preparedness and Response Supplemental Appropriation. As part of the CARES Act, OIA provided the USVI with $7.8 million in support.

In response to hurricanes Irma and Maria, the Trump Administration has provided billions to the U.S. Virgin Islands to assist in its response and recovery from these storms, and build resiliency for future storms. DOI's current Secretary, David Bernhardt, traveled to the territory after the storm to view the damage and rebuilding plans.

The federal government also provides ongoing, general support to the USVI. OIA has provided over $20 million in general assistance to the USVI since 2017, including $9 million in technical assistance support, $3.6 million for the USVI Office of Disaster Recovery, $2.3 million in maintenance assistance support, $2.3 million for OIA Energizing Insular Communities program, $9.2 million for capital improvements, and almost $900,000 in Coral Reef and Natural Resources support. These funds have been used for projects to upgrade the government's time and attendance system, create an internet web portal that enables registered businesses to conduct business online, improve federal grants management and usage, resolve multi-generational property ownership issues in the territory, and even to help the Department of Sports, Parks and Recreation purchase a garbage truck, just to name a few.

There are other ways OIA works to support the residents of

See TRUMP on Next Page

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

A COVID-19 vaccine is one thing. Getting Americans to take it is another

By JIAYIN XUE and ROBERT M. KAPLAN
Los Angeles Times

Jiayin Xue is an adjunct professor at the Stanford Clinical Excellence Research Center and a pediatrician. Robert M. Kaplan is a distinguished research professor of public health at UCLA and adjunct professor at the Stanford Clinical Excellence Research Center. Previously he was an associate director of the National Institutes of Health and a chief science officer at the U.S. Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality.

With multiple vaccine candidates in the late stages of clinical trials, it may seem that an end to the COVID-19 pandemic is just around the corner. But a safe and effective vaccine is merely the first step.

To attain herd immunity, a very large number of people must be vaccinated. This will require a prodigious global supply chain, equitable access to the vaccine and, perhaps most daunting in the case of the United States, the willingness of people to take it.

If getting Americans to wear a mask is hard, getting them to take a COVID-19 vaccine is likely to be even harder.

Despite overwhelming evidence that vaccines are safe, physicians routinely confront a resistance to vaccines of every stripe. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only 62.6% of children under 18 and 45.3% of adults received the flu vaccine during the 2018-19 season. In 2018, only 51.1% of adolescents were up to date on their HPV vaccine, which prevents cervical and other types of cancer. Although it was declared eliminated in the U.S. in 2000, measles, a highly contagious disease that requires more than 90% vaccine coverage to achieve herd immunity, has made a comeback in the last decade.

We recently asked a demographically representative sample of 1,000 people from across the U.S. about their attitudes toward COVID-19, including their perceptions of vaccines. To our dismay, anti-vaccine sentiment was even more prevalent than expected.

Among survey participants, 36% said they thought vaccines have harmful effects that are not being disclosed to the public, 10.3% said childhood vaccines are not very safe or not safe at all and 21.1% reported refusing vaccines in the past.

There was a bright spot: When it comes to a potential coronavirus vaccine, most respondents said they would look to medical experts for guidance. Asked to rate whose endorsement would affect their choice, 41.5% ranked public health leaders such as Dr. Anthony Fauci or Dr. Deborah Birx first, while 24% ranked their personal doctor first.

But an alarming portion of respondents—21.8%—said they definitely would not get a coronavirus vaccination. Those with a lower level of education and those who identified as conservative were more likely to say they would refuse the coronavirus vaccine and would be less likely to listen to public health experts. Lower education level was also associated with higher likelihood of voting for President Donald Trump in the November election.

Depending on the infectious disease, usually 70% to 90% of a given population must be immune to achieve herd protection. The vaccination rate required to achieve herd immunity depends on the effectiveness of the vaccine itself. The seasonal flu vaccine is only 60% effective at best. If the coronavirus vaccine is anything like the flu vaccine, a vaccination compliance rate of 100% would not be enough to reach herd immunity.

Our survey suggests that fewer than 80% of Americans may get vaccinated for the coronavirus. In this scenario, even if a new vaccine were 80% effective, which is optimistic, only 64% of the public would be protected. That doesn't get us to herd immunity.

The situation is not hopeless. A protection rate of 60% would dramatically slow the pandemic in the U.S. But the reality is we depend on one another to reach vaccination levels that reduce risk. Not only do we need a safe and effective vaccine, then we need widespread acceptance of it.

Successful vaccination campaigns in the past have relied on political endorsements and strong public-private partnerships. President Franklin D. Roosevelt played a crucial role in raising money for polio research well before the National Institutes of Health had a big budget.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower later used advice from the best scientists and physicians to assure the public that polio vaccines were safe and effective. Today, global polio eradication campaigns are led by national governments, global health agencies and private entities, such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. A disease that once devastated millions around the world is now endemic in only two countries.

Any future coronavirus vaccination campaign will require strong leaders who support good science, not leaders who manipulate or obstruct science for their own political agendas. The U.S. also needs to continue, not terminate, its working relationship with the World Health Organization and other global entities. This pandemic will not be over, in the U.S. or anywhere else, until an effective vaccine reaches every vulnerable community around the world.

Whither small businesses?

By RICHARD WILLIAMS
Tribune News Service

Richard Williams is a senior affiliated scholar with the Mercatus Center at George Mason University and former director for social sciences at the Food and Drug Administration's Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition.

This National Small Business Week (Sept. 20-26) has a somber tone thanks to the 400,000 such businesses we've lost since the COVID-19 pandemic began. A survey five years ago found that 80% of small-business owners traded the security of 9-to-5 jobs to pursue their passions, even though many ended up working longer hours. Today, much of that work is being undone.

Among the many people in need of help during our recovery from lockdowns and lawlessness are those who brave bankruptcy to chase the American dream, create jobs and keep our neighborhoods vibrant. Like many of you, my McLean, Virginia, neighbors are doing what they can. Will it be enough?

We're losing brick-and-mortar stores as Americans stay home. Some have been lost to senseless vandalism. One African American firefighter in Minneapolis used his life savings to start the Scores Sports Bar only to see it burned to the ground. Those of you who own businesses could be forgiven for taking country singer Johnny Paycheck's advice: "Take this job and shove it, I ain't working here no more." But we still need you.

This is a freedom we don't often talk about: to work where one chooses through ownership. As historian Andrei Sokolov has written of the former Soviet Union, labor contracts were once locked in for five-year terms, and downtrodden workers posed "poisonous" questions like "When will we be allowed to change freely from one enterprise to another?"

This freedom allowed the Mkandawire family to migrate from Malawi, a landlocked country in South Africa, to McLean in 1992. According to the World Bank, Malawi ranks 153rd out of 190 countries on the ease of starting a new business. The United States is 55th.

There are seven recognized languages in Malawi, but English is not one of them. Nevertheless, four years later, 16-year-old Burton Mkandawire applied for a job bussing tables at McLean Pizza, which had been open since 1962. He worked his way up to waiter, and in 2017 had saved enough to buy the place with a partner from Saudi Arabia.

Burton has his small business, which may not have been possible in Malawi, but now he struggles to keep it. He used to have 20 tables full every night and during most lunches. That's down to one or two tables, because many customers come from nearby offices and banks which are closed.

But he has hope, as neighbors are doing their best to help. Old high school friends have just donated money. On the Nextdoor app, McLean neighbors urge each other to go for the fantastic wings and pizza. The landlord has reduced his rent. He also says Paycheck Protection Program loans and grants have been a help, though more aid appears to be politically dead for the next few months.

There are more problems on the way. Burton will have to face the No. 1 problem for small businesses: Premiums for family coverage have risen 54% in the last decade. The 2017 Tax Cuts and Jobs Act helped lower the tax burden, but property and state taxes on business income are now a huge concern.

These are our friends, families, and neighbors. Women own 36% of all businesses, 99.9% of which are small businesses. Minorities own almost one-third of all small businesses, accounting for more than 50% of new U.S. businesses recently.

Are those who seek to represent us at all levels of government paying attention? Can we enable people who have sacrificed everything to start their businesses, and who are now struggling to hold on, to keep the doors open? Will we preserve opportunities for those who dream of someday owning their own business?

In addition to practicing zero tolerance for burning or vandalizing property, leaders must—now more than ever—keep government burdens, including taxes, regulations and health care costs, down as much as possible.

Nearly 95% of our small-business owners plan to vote. In better economic times, when the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement and Fairness Act was put to the vote in 1996, the "yea's" were 100-0. That's a good statistic to pay attention to.

TRUMP

From Page 8

the USVI. For example, each September we ensure quick and timely transmission of the Rum Excise (cover-over) Tax to the GVI. OIA also provides technical support for special projects like the land exchange between the National Park Service and the USVI Department of Education to build a school for the children of St. John. OIA is also working closely with the DOI Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture to assist the USVI in developing strategies for drought response and water resources management in the territory. We are currently working closely with the Water and Power Authority to develop its Integrated Resources Plan, a Comprehensive Personnel Review Plan, and a Cost of Service Study. All are designed to increase reliability and lower the cost of energy and electricity to residents and businesses.

Finally, OIA has funded Infrastructure projects like the Christiansted Road Rehabilitation Program, the USVI Historic Towns Road Repairs Project, the Frederiksted and Territorial Road Rehabilitation Project, and the Main Street Enhancement Program.

For many years, OIA has organized a meeting in Washington, D.C., called the Interagency Group on Insular Areas. Gov. Bryan has attended these meetings, held at the White House, organized to afford USVI to bring issues directly to the President's staff and other federal agencies.

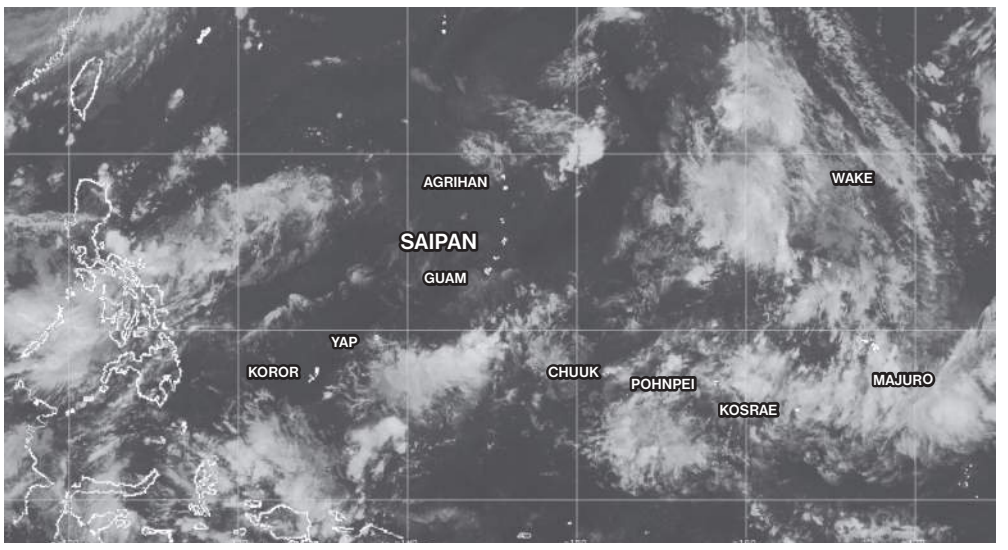
The Trump Administration, together with the Congress, has supported these actions. Why? Because the U.S. Virgin Islands is an important part of the American family.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Partly cloudy in the morning then becoming mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Isolated showers and thunderstorms.	Partly sunny with isolated showers and thunderstorms. Light and variable winds.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
87° 78°	87° 78°	87° 78°	88° 78°	89° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 9:09 AM, THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2020

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Weather radar shows showers spread across the Marianas this morning. The buoys reveal combined seas of 3 to 5 feet, composed mainly of an east-northeast trade-wind swell and a north swell.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Palau	Thunderstorms	85° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	86° / 79°
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 78°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 78°
Majuro	Partly Cloudy	86° / 81°

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:10 PM
Sunday	6:06 AM	6:09 PM
Monday	6:06 AM	6:08 PM
Tuesday	6:06 AM	6:07 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	12:09 AM	1:37 PM
Saturday	-	1:05 AM	2:30 PM
Sunday	-	2:01 AM	3:18 PM
Monday	-	2:55 AM	4:02 PM
Tuesday	-	3:47 AM	4:43 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Mostly Sunny	63° / 52°
Beijing	Sunny	73° / 48°
Hong Kong	Mostly Sunny	91° / 82°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	88° / 76°
London	Partly Cloudy	70° / 57°
Los Angeles	Sunny	85° / 65°
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 79°
Melbourne	Cloudy	61° / 45°
Miami	Partly Cloudy	87° / 77°
New York	Partly Cloudy	82° / 69°
Osaka	Rain	75° / 64°
Paris	Mostly Cloudy	72° / 57°
Busan	Rain	75° / 64°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	77° / 55°
Salem	Mostly Sunny	92° / 68°
San Francisco	Sunny	82° / 60°
Seoul	Sunny	73° / 52°
Tokyo	Rain	77° / 66°
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	87° / 71°

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
1:59 AM	LOW TIDE	0.67
7:38 AM	HIGH TIDE	2.14
2:20 PM	LOW TIDE	0.08
8:31 PM	HIGH TIDE	2.08

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

- Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.
- Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.
- Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.
- Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.
- Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.
- Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html
- Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

- Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.
- Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

- Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:
- ❏ Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.
- ❏ Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
- ❏ Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- ❏ Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	7:30am	8:10am	1, 4
UA117	7:50am	8:30am	6

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

UA183	7:30am	9:10pm	1 via Guam
UA183	7:30am	10:50pm	5 via Guam

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	5:50am	6:31am	1, 4
UA174	6:15am	6:56am	6

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

UA184	10:45pm	4:25am+1	1 via Guam
UA184	11:45pm	5:33am+1	5 via Guam

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA184/174	11:45pm	6:56am+1	5 via Guam

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301.2	8:30AM	9:00AM	Tues/Fri
1303	3:30PM	4:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101.2	9:30AM	10:00AM	Tues/Fri
3103	4:30PM	5:00PM	Tues/Fri

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	13:00	13:30	Temporarily Unavailable

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00	7:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1205	11:00	11:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1206	12:00	12:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1207	13:00	13:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1208	14:00	14:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Temporarily Unavailable
1212	18:00	18:15	Temporarily Unavailable

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2101	7:30	7:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	10:30	10:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2105	11:30	11:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2106	12:30	12:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2107	13:30	13:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2108	14:30	14:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	17:30	17:45	Temporarily Unavailable
2112	18:30	18:45	Temporarily Unavailable

Palau Pledge honored with Black Pencil award of the decade

PALAU—The Palau Pledge, which means every visitor to Palau must promise to act in an ecologically responsible manner, has again been honored with a prestigious international award, winning Black Pencil of the Decade in a virtual ceremony that took place in London last week.

The awards, presented by the British D&AD (Design & Art Directors), recognize and celebrate the best of global creativity and design in communications, and are considered the pinnacle of excellence by the marketing industry. D&AD Black Pencils are extremely rare, with judging rated the toughest in the world. Palau Pledge received two of these prestigious awards in 2018, making it one of only two projects in the world ever to do so.

This latest accolade was awarded after an online public vote of the best creative work of the last decade. Out of 17 Black Pencils awarded globally in the last 10 years, just three projects were recognized as Black Pencil of the Decade, with Palau Pledge being one of them.

The Palau Pledge means that, upon entry to Palau, visitors need to sign a passport pledge to act in in an ecologically responsible manner on the island, for the sake of Palau's children and future generations of Palauans, making Palau the first nation on earth to change its immigration laws for the cause of environmental protection.

When the original Black Pencils were awarded in 2018, D&AD judges said Palau Pledge won because it was "an idea that drives positive change and has the potential to impact the world."

Tim Lindsay, D&AD chair, said, "Palau Pledge is a striking example of the importance of creativity and creative people in addressing the planet's problems. The campaign unifies environmental consciousness with beautiful design, and marks a new chapter for country branding and identity. Every nation should be inspired. It is no surprise that the industry chose this as their favorite Design Black Pencil of the Decade. It really is one of a kind."

First lady Debbie Remengesau, who chairs the Palau Legacy Project, said, "We are grateful to everyone who voted for Palau Pledge to receive this incredible honor. In doing so, they have helped us shine an international light on the cultural and environmental challenges facing our children here in Palau, and around the world. We are proud that Palau Pledge has again started a global movement; continuing our tradition of conservation world firsts (in the vein of the Palau National Marine Sanctuary and our Nuclear Free Constitution). As a mother and grandmother myself, passing on a home that can sustain our children is very important to me. Now, more than ever, we must all come together: governments, corporations and citizens to protect and preserve our children's future.

"I would especially like to thank our partners at host/Havas in Sydney for all their dedication, hard work and commitment in bringing Palau's culture of conservation to life through the Palau Pledge. And, also the Australian government grant, helping us continue the important private sector education work in Palau.

Australian Ambassador to Palau, Richelle Turner said, "Palau Pledge is an incredible initiative and this latest award is testimony to the strong conservation culture of the Palauan people. As a fellow Pacific island nation, Australia shares Palau's commitment to ocean health and supports Palau's important conservation initiatives. It's wonderful that our two countries are again collaborating on the creation of the second phase of Palau Pledge, via the work of Host/Havas in Sydney. We hope this important work, and continued international recognition, will help contribute to the recovery of Palau's tourism economy post COVID-19."

For more information about the Palau Pledge, visit palaupledge.com. ***(PR)***

COASTAL CLEANUP
Employees and officials of McDonald's Saipan have their picture taken after participating in the International Coastal Cleanup last Saturday, Sept. 19.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMONWEALTH JUDICIARY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE
Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 ▪ Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 ▪ Facsimile: (670) 236-9702
Website: www.nmijudiciary.com

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

FAMILY COURT SERVICES SPECIALIST
On the island of SAIPAN
Announcement # JVA20-015

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Presiding Judge of the Commonwealth Superior Court and direct supervision of the Family Court Manager or his/her designee. The duties of this position include, but are not limited to the following:

- Assist *Pro Se* clients when they come to the Family Court Division seeking assistance in filing their case;
- Assist in the development and enhancement of Family Court programs;
- Maintain and promote positive workflow with all agencies involved in the processing and distribution of Family Court cases;
- Participate in court and special hearings for Family Court cases;
- Assist the courtroom clerks with docketing and scheduling of hearings for Family Court cases;
- Assist in the distribution of orders, pleadings and other documents in Family Court cases;
- Coordinate and schedule home assessments as well as process referral orders for those court clients referred to social mental health services;
- Conduct interviews of court clients and their families; analyze the information, identify possible problem areas, make recommendations concerning the case, and make referrals to other social service agencies;
- Input case information into the Justware Case Management System and the Lexis Nexis E-filing system;
- Attend meetings as a representative of the Family Court Division;
- Assist in planning and coordination of Family Court trainings/ conferences;
- Maintain and monitor the Family Court Division's goals and objectives which will include the preparation of quarterly reports, compilation of case statistics and processing of purchase requisitions;
- Adhere to and comply with all promulgated policies, standards and codes of ethical conduct and perform other related duties as assigned; and
- Performs other related duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Family Court Services Specialist should have High School Diploma or equivalent from an accredited college with an Associate of Arts (AA) degree in social work, criminal justice, or related service, plus one (1) year of experience in clerical, data collection, or similar field.

Must have the ability to maintain and control sensitive and confidential information, maintain professional records, and uphold office policies. Must be proficient with Microsoft Word and Excel.

Successful candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Must have a valid drivers' license and operate a court vehicle. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Presiding Judge. The salary range will be $23,000 - $25,000 annually.

Annual salary will be reduced by 20% immediately upon hire, due to current government austerity measures that have been implemented.

INTERESTED PERSONS may obtain application form at Window #3 at the front of the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota during normal business hours except on austerity Friday and holidays. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted on or before October 5, 2020, 5:00 p.m. (Chamorro Standard Time) to:

NMI Judiciary
Human Resources
Guma' Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670)236-9818
Cell. (670) 783-8592
Fax. (670) 236-9702
hr.judiciary@NMIjudiciary.com

This job announcement will remain open until 5:00 p.m. (Chamorro Standard Time) **October 5, 2020** and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.nmijudiciary.com

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

NMPASI
NORTHERN MARIANAS PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEMS, INC.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

The Northern Marianas Protection and Advocacy Systems, Inc. (NMPASI) is soliciting proposals for Single Audit of financial and compliance audit for fiscal year ending **September 30, 2020**. NMPASI is designated, federally funded protection and advocacy system for persons with disabilities in the CNMI. NMPASI uses a variety of individual and systems advocacy approaches to protect people's rights, including legal and administrative remedies, legislative, policy change and trainings. Proposals for the financial and compliance audit shall be submitted to NMPASI, P.O. Box 503529, Saipan, MP 96950 no later than November 16, 2020. The audit shall be performed in compliance with the following guidelines:

1. Generally Accepted Auditing Standards;
2. OMB Circular A-133; and
3. Compliance with the general Requirements Applicable to Federal Financial Assistance Program.

Award will be based on specific factor such as prior experience, technical competence, ability to meet the deadline and price in this order. The contract for this audit will be awarded no later than **November 30,2020**, and a final audit report shall be completed by **March 15, 2021**. A list of specific audit requirements and Agency's profile are available at NMPASI office, Gualo Rai. Any questions regarding this matter can be addressed to Mr. James Rayphand, Executive Director at (670) 235-7273/4 (voice) or email at jrayphand@nmpasi.org.

Thank You for SHAPING our FUTURE

United States® Census 2020

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICIAL SEAL

Business

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
PHI Pharmacy is giving away free prenatal vitamins at its Garapan, Kagman, and Dandan branches.

Free prenatal vitamins at PHI Pharmacy

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

PHI Pharmacy is proud to announce that it is offering prenatal vitamins absolutely free at all of its three locations on Saipan—Garapan, Kagman, and Dandan.

General manager Joshua Wise said PHI Pharmacy has been offering free multivitamins for children and the company is excited to introduce the second in its upcoming line of free multivitamins.

"During this COVID-19 pandemic, access to good nutrition can be limited and costly for many families who may no longer be able to make ends meet. Our Supplement Program aims to be able to provide basic multivitamins to help improve nutritional requirements. We started providing free children's vitamins in 2018 and are poised to add prenatal vitamins to our Supplement Program," he said.

Prenatal vitamins are a nutritional supplement to use prior to conception, during pregnancy, and for postnatal (lactating and non-lactating women). To avail of the free prenatal vitamins, would-be mothers just need to come down to any PHI Pharmacy location and just ask to be enrolled in the Prenatal Vitamin Program.

"We will log your name and birthday in our files, give you a punch card, give you your vitamins, and you can be on your way. You will be given a bottle of 30 tablets to take one tablet by mouth once a day. Each month when you visit any PHI Pharmacy location, show us your punch card to get your month supply of prenatal vitamins," said Wise.

The Prenatal Vitamin Program is available to all women of reproductive age, which is generally considered 18 years old to 49 years of age, regardless of citizenship.

Visit PHI Pharmacy's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/phipharmacy for the latest information on sales and health information. You can also call PHI Pharmacy Kagman at 256-0131, PHI Pharmacy Dandan at 235-6170, or PHI Pharmacy Garapan at 323-5000.

PHI Pharmacy Kagman is open Monday through Friday, 8am-6pm. PHI Pharmacy Dandan at the Joeten Dandan Building is open Monday through Friday, 8am-6pm and Saturday/Sunday, 8am-4pm. PHI Pharmacy Garapan at the BRI Building, Suite 105 is open Monday through Friday, 8am-6pm.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Prenatal vitamins are a nutritional supplement to use prior to conception, during pregnancy, and for postnatal (lactating and non-lactating women).

TikTok asks judge to block Trump's ban as deadline looms

NEW YORK (AP)—Chinese-owned TikTok asked a judge to block the Trump Administration's attempt to ban its app, suggesting the video-sharing app's forced deal with Oracle and Walmart remains unsettled.

An app-store ban of TikTok, delayed once by the government, is set to go into effect Sunday. A more comprehensive ban is scheduled for November, about a week after the presidential election. President Donald Trump set this process in motion with executive orders in August that declared TikTok and another Chinese app threats to U.S. national security. The administration has offered no specifics to substantiate that charge.

Trump has pushed for a sale of TikTok's U.S. operations to an American company. The president said this week that he would bless a proposed deal in which Oracle and Walmart take a 20% stake in a new U.S. entity to be called TikTok Global. But he also said he could retract his approval if Oracle doesn't "have total control."

The two sides in the TikTok deal appear at odds over the corporate structure of TikTok Global. ByteDance, TikTok's Chinese parent, said Monday that it will still own 80% of the U.S. entity after a financing round. Oracle, meanwhile, put out a statement saying that Americans "will be the majority and ByteDance will have no ownership in TikTok Global."

Chinese media have criticized the deal, suggesting that the Chinese government is not happy with the arrangement. The Chinese government complicated deal arrangements in August when it restricted exports of artificial-intelligence tech like that used by TikTok.

One editorial in the state-owned China Daily on Wednesday called the deal a "dirty and underhanded trick."

In its filing in federal court in the District of Columbia, TikTok said Trump's Aug. 6 executive order is unlawful. So are resulting Commerce Department prohibitions that aim to kick TikTok out of U.S. app stores and, in November, essentially shut it down in the U.S., it claimed.

Samsung Galaxy Note20, Note20 Ultra arrive at IT&E

IT&E announced that the Samsung Galaxy Note20 and Note20 Ultra are available at IT&E. For a limited time only, customers can get an only online discount of 15% off their new Note20 or Note20 Ultra when they purchase online at ite.net with the Unlimited Plan.

"The Samsung Galaxy Note20 and Note20 Ultra represent the evolution of devices built for creators, professionals, gamers and anyone that wants to stay connected. This is the device for people who want to bring their work and play to new heights," said IT&E CEO Jim Oehlerking.

Exceptional features of the Note20 and Note20 Ultra include:

1. Superb battery – 50% charge in 30 minutes and Wireless PowerSharing

2. PC-like storage – Both include 128 GB internal memory and the Note20 Ultra allows for 1 TB extendable memory

3. Pro-grade camera with high resolution video

■ Note20 Ultra features a 108 MP rear main camera while Note20 features a 64 MP rear camera

■ Both phones have ultra-wide, wide and telephoto rear lenses

■ Video mode has 8K resolution and is capable of shooting natural motion blur at 24 frames per second or shoot super smooth action shots at 120 frames per second, a format used by professional videographers

4. Improved S Pen

■ Faster latency or reaction time for a more natural, fluid writing and built-in remote-control features, as well as five new Air Action gestures

■ New note-taking experience that turns your handwritten notes into text or PowerPoint presentations with a ta

■ Samsung Notes Sync also allows for auto save and seamless syncing of your notes across mobile, tablet and PC. Continue your work from your phone to your PC without hitting save.

5. Enhanced Samsung DeX functions, including wireless connection to your smart TV and multitasking capabilities.

In addition to the Unlimited Plan, the new Samsung Galaxy Note20 and Note20 Ultra are available on any of IT&E's affordable data plans, including Unlimited+, 10 GB, and 5 GB data plans. See stores or visit ite.net for details and pricing. ***(PR)***

STOCK PORTFOLIO

LEADING INDICATORS

DOW	S&P	NASDAQ
26,763.13	3,236.92	10,632.98
−525.05	−78.65	−330.65
1.92%	2.37%	3.02%

EXCHANGE RATES

In U.S. dollar terms

Australian Dollar	1.4192	Hong Kong Dollar	7.7503	Russian Ruble	75.8539
British Pound	0.7865	Indian Rupee	73.4908	Singapore Dollar	1.3742
Canadian Dollar	1.3397	Japanese Yen	105.3130	South Korean Won	1148.29
Chinese Yuan	6.7290	Malaysian Ringgit	4.1319	Swiss Franc	0.9234
Euro	0.8574	New Zealand Dollar	1.5305	Taiwan Dollar	28.8063
		Philippine Peso	47.6774	Thailand Baht	31.6170

Nation

Dismay over Breonna Taylor spills into America's streets

LOUISVILLE, Ky. (AP)— Anger, frustration and sadness over the decision not to charge Kentucky police officers for Breonna Taylor's death poured into America's streets as protesters lashed out at a criminal justice system they say is stacked against Black people. Violence seized the demonstrations in her hometown of Louisville as gunfire rang out and wounded two police officers.

Taylor

Activists, celebrities and everyday Americans have been calling for charges since Taylor, an emergency medical worker, was shot multiple times by white officers who entered her home during a narcotics investigation in March. While the officers had a no-knock warrant, the investigation showed they announced themselves before entering, said state Attorney General Daniel Cameron, a Republican and the state's first Black top prosecutor.

A grand jury returned three charges of wanton endangerment Wednesday against fired Officer Brett Hankison over shooting into a home next to Taylor's with people inside.

Hundreds of demonstrators chanted Taylor's name and marched in cities like New York, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia and Las Vegas. People gathered in downtown Chicago's Millennium Park, chanting demands for justice as passing drivers on Michigan Avenue honked their horns. Authorities unleashed chemical agents on some protesters after they tried to climb on a SWAT vehicle in Atlanta and others were arrested.

While protests in Louisville had been largely peaceful, scuffles broke out between police and protesters and some people were arrested before the two officers were shot while investigating reports of gunfire Wednesday night.

Interim Police Chief Robert Schroeder said a suspect was in custody but did not offer details about whether that person was participating in the protests. He says both officers are expected to recover, and one was undergoing surgery.

Taylor's case has exposed the wide gulf between public opinion on justice for those who kill Black Americans and the laws under which those officers are charged, which regularly favor police and do not often result in steep criminal accusations.

Carmen Jones has protested in downtown Louisville every day for nearly three months. She said she felt despair after the grand jury's decision and didn't know what was next.

"We're tired of being hashtags. We're tired of paying for history in our blood and our bodies and being told to respond to this violence and aggression with peace," she said. "We did it the Martin way for the entire summer, and it got us nowhere. Maybe it's time to do things the Malcolm way."

Jones said her remaining hope was that their demonstration would cause systemwide change in the U.S. But the decision in Taylor's case made her feel like her life doesn't matter in America.

"I don't think I'll sleep the same ever again, cause it would happen to any of us" she said. "The system does not care about Black people. The system chews Black people up and spits us out."

Along with George Floyd, a Black man killed by police in Minneapolis in May, Taylor's name became a rallying cry during nationwide protests that called attention to entrenched racism and demanded police reform. Taylor's image has been painted on streets, emblazoned on protest signs and silk-screened on T-shirts worn by celebrities.

The FBI is still investigating potential violations of federal law in connection with the raid at Taylor's home on March 13.

MICHAEL A. WHITE, ESQ. F0122
THE LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL A. WHITE, LLC
POST OFFICE BOX 5222
SAIPAN, MARIANA ISLANDS 96950
TEL: (670) 234-6547 | FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEY FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION, Plaintiff, -v- The Estate of JESUS TILIPAO TEREGEYO, Deceased, Defendant.) CIVIL ACTION NO. 17-0231) FIRST AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on July 16, 2020, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property:

Legal description of the property:
Lot 011 G 1097, situated in Kagman III, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, as shown on the Division of Lands and Surveys Official Cadastral Plat no. 011 G 20 dated December 3, 1993, Commonwealth Recorder's File no. 93-4288, the description therein being incorporated herein by reference.

Total area of the property:
843 square meters, more or less

Known encumbrances:
None material

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on Friday, October 2, 2020, at the hour of 1:30 p.m., at The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The Sale will be open to the general public. Copies of a title insurance report for the properties are available to any prospective bidder upon request.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 21st day of September, 2020:

/s/ MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer

MARIANAS VISITORS AUTHORITY
P.O. BOX 500861 CK
SAIPAN, MP 96950
TEL: (670) 664-3200/1
FAX: (670) 664-3237

info@mymarianas.com
www.mymarianas.com

The Marianas

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Marianas Visitors Authority hereby gives notice that a **Regular Board of Directors Meeting** will be held on **Monday, September 28, 2020 at 10:30 a.m.** in MVA's Conference Room, Saipan, MP 96950.

MEETING AGENDA

1) **Preliminary Matters**
   1. Call to Order
   2. Roll Call
   3. Adoption of Agenda
   4. Adoption of Minutes
      a. Regular Board Meeting – September 16, 2020
2) **Public Comments**
3) **Old Business**
   1. 2021 Budget
4) **Executive Session**
5) **Miscellaneous/Announcements**
6) **Adjournment**

/s/ Gloria Cavanagh
Acting Chair, MVA Board of Directors

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 20 – 039

Opening Date: September 21, 2020
Closing Date: October 2, 2020

POSITION TITLE:	**Laboratory Analyst**
DEPARTMENT:	**Water & Wastewater Laboratory**
LOCATION:	**Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA**
ANNUAL SALARY:	**$40,084.00 - $54,113.00 per annum, Exempt**
CONTRACT:	**Two (2) years, subject to renewal**
POSITION(S):	**One (1)**

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Water Laboratory Manager or his/her designee.

Duties:
- Performs laboratory testing and analysis of water and wastewater samples in accordance with Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality (BECQ) and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) standards.
- Calibrates and maintains laboratory equipment; prepares solutions, standards and media for chemical and microbiological testing.
- Maintains live bacteria cultures; determines volumes and degree of dilution of samples.
- Performs and ensures all laboratory testing meets established quality controls and standards criteria.
- Prepares and cleans glassware for testing ensuring sterilization standards are maintained.
- Prepares and enters data in system and reports; identify and report atypical results.
- Maintain laboratory logs, records and files including records of quality control functions.
- Maintain data and reporting in accordance with BECQ and EPA requirements.
- Identify and troubleshoot issues; make recommendations to resolve issues; review procedures and recommend changes or updates as required.
- Orders and maintains inventory of supplies, parts, and equipment; provide specifications and recommendations for replenishment or replacement of supplies and equipment.
- Collects field samples including well, safe drinking water, and wastewater samples; determines and gathers appropriate sample containers.
- Ensures validity of samples collected including sample holding time and temperature ranges.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Education: Bachelor's Degree in physical science, chemistry, biology, or other related science with at least two (2) years of experience in an environmental, microbiology, or chemistry laboratory is preferred. An equivalent combination of education and experience sufficient to perform essential duties may be acceptable.
Knowledge of: Chemistry and microbiology; Laboratory sampling, testing, and analysis methods, equipment and procedures. Mathematical concepts; Recordkeeping principles; Customer service principles; Safe work practices; Using computers, including sending business email and use of Excel and Word.
Skills in: Interpreting and applying written laboratory procedures, applicable laws, codes, regulations and standards; Analyzing water and wastewater samples and testing for EPA compliance; Evaluating, calculating and determining test results; Preparing test environment utilizing appropriate solutions, standards, and media. Calibrating and maintaining laboratory equipment. Reviewing and monitoring processes for quality control standards. Identifying, troubleshooting and recommending resolutions to issues. Reviewing procedures and recommending necessary changes. Ordering and maintaining supplies and inventory. Review and evaluate supply and equipment specifications providing recommendations. Collecting field samples and validating samples for testing; Maintaining laboratory records and files; Cleaning and maintaining laboratory equipment and supplies; Providing attention to detail; Adhering to safe work procedures, to include safe handling of acids, bases and wastewater. Utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; Utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently and effectively exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

- **Licensing:**
- Valid CNMI Driver's License with appropriate class.

Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

An Equal Opportunity Provider and Employer
P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. No. (670) 664-4282 Fax (670) 235-5131

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

JVA No. 20 – 040

Opening Date: September 16, 2020
Closing Date: September 29, 2020

POSITION TITLE:	**Dispatch Operator**
DEPARTMENT:	**Chief of Administration/Customer Service/Call Center**
LOCATION:	**Saipan, Northern Marianas Islands, USA**
ANNUAL SALARY:	**$16,742.00 per annum, Exempt**
CONTRACT:	**Not Contracted**
POSITION(S):	**Two (2)**

The incumbent will be under the direct supervision of the Chief of Administration or his/her designee.

Duties:
- Monitors radio communications in order to dispatch crews for troubleshooting and for related service calls.
- Receives incoming calls reporting complaints or issues related to water, sewer or power utilities; provides general customer service; and routes service calls to appropriate resource.
- Organizes and maintains file systems and pertinent records.
- Performs data entry; maintains and updates logs and dispatch related documentation.
- Prepares and maintains requisitions.
- Follows up with customers to provide basic information, status updates, and to verify customer's experience and any remaining service needs.
- Performs other duties of a similar nature and level as assigned.

Minimum Requirements:
Education: High School Diploma or GED or ABE Program AS and up to 1 year of customer service experience.
Knowledge of: Customer service principles; Basic recordkeeping principles; Radio communications equipment procedures; Modern office technology.
Skills in: Providing customer service; Monitoring and utilizing radio communications and equipment; receiving and routing service or problem calls; entering, updating and maintaining data; organizing and maintaining filing systems and records; preparing and updating logs, records and related documentation; performing follow up calls to ensure adequate service provision; utilizing a computer and relevant software applications; utilizing communication and interpersonal skills as applied to interaction with coworkers, supervisor, the general public, and others to sufficiently exchange or convey information and to receive work direction.

Applicants may be tested. Subject to pre-employment drug test.

How to Apply: Submit a completed CUC Employment Application, resume, and applicable supporting documents to the CUC Human Resources office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building on Saipan. Applicants on the island of Tinian and Rota may submit their documents to their respective CUC Administration office. Application, resume and supporting documents can also be e-mailed to: employment.applications@cucgov.org

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World

Duterte gets rare praise for raising sea feud ruling at UN

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The Philippine president got rare praises Wednesday from his key critics for invoking before the United Nations a 2016 arbitration ruling that invalidated China's vast territorial claims in the South China Sea, in a surprise move that will likely pique Beijing.

President Rodrigo Duterte made one of his strongest defenses of the Philippine victory in the arbitration case in his first address before the annual U.N. General Assembly where world leaders spoke mostly in prerecorded videos due to the pandemic. China has long refused to bring the issue to any international arena.

Duterte, who has nurtured close ties with China since taking office in mid-2016, has long been criticized for refusing to immediately and forcefully demand Chinese compliance with the ruling by a U.N.-backed tribunal. It found China's claims on virtually the entire South China Sea on historical grounds inconsistent with international maritime law.

Duterte

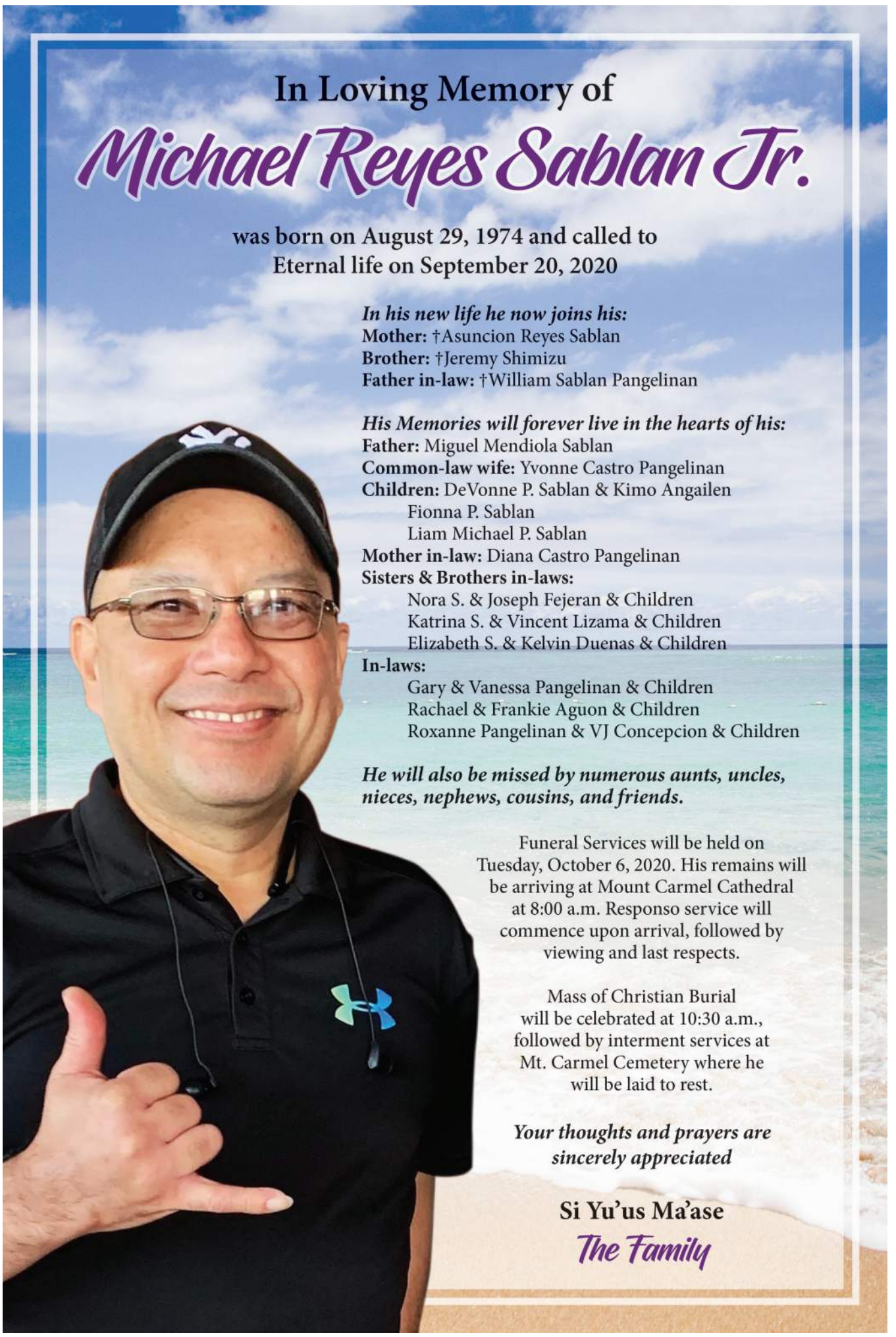
China refused to take part in the arbitration, which was initiated by Duterte's predecessor, and has dismissed the ruling as a "sham." Beijing prefers direct negotiations with each of its rival claimant states and has vehemently refused to have the long-raging disputes internationalized for fears the United States and its allies would find a way to intervene.

Duterte welcomed the increasing number of countries that have expressed support for the ruling, which he said stood for "the triumph of reason over rashness, of law over disorder, of amity over ambition."

"The award is now part of international law, beyond compromise and beyond the reach of passing governments to dilute, diminish or abandon," Duterte said, without naming China. "We firmly reject attempts to undermine it."

Chinese officials did not immediately issue any reaction.

Albert del Rosario, a former Philippine foreign secretary who brought the disputes with China to international arbitration, said he was heartened by Duterte's move. By underscoring the decision before the annual U.N. gathering of world leaders, Duterte "has acted more faithfully to our constitution, which mandates him and our military to secure our country's sovereignty and protect our lands and seas," del Rosario said.


In Loving Memory of
Michael Reyes Sablan Jr.
was born on August 29, 1974 and called to
Eternal life on September 20, 2020
In his new life he now joins his:
Mother: †Asuncion Reyes Sablan
Brother: †Jeremy Shimizu
Father in-law: †William Sablan Pangelinan
His Memories will forever live in the hearts of his:
Father: Miguel Mendiola Sablan
Common-law wife: Yvonne Castro Pangelinan
Children: DeVonne P. Sablan & Kimo Angailen
Fionna P. Sablan
Liam Michael P. Sablan
Mother in-law: Diana Castro Pangelinan
Sisters & Brothers in-laws:
Nora S. & Joseph Fejeran & Children
Katrina S. & Vincent Lizama & Children
Elizabeth S. & Kelvin Duenas & Children
In-laws:
Gary & Vanessa Pangelinan & Children
Rachael & Frankie Aguon & Children
Roxanne Pangelinan & VJ Concepcion & Children
He will also be missed by numerous aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.
Funeral Services will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020. His remains will be arriving at Mount Carmel Cathedral at 8:00 a.m. Responso service will commence upon arrival, followed by viewing and last respects.
Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated at 10:30 a.m., followed by interment services at Mt. Carmel Cemetery where he will be laid to rest.
Your thoughts and prayers are sincerely appreciated
Si Yu'us Ma'ase
The Family

Lebanon asks world's help 'trying to rise from its rubble'

BEIRUT (AP)—Facing an economic meltdown and other crises, Lebanon's president on Wednesday asked for the world's help to rebuild the capital's main port and neighborhoods that were blown away in last month's catastrophic explosion.

President Michel Aoun made the plea in a prerecorded speech to the U.N. General Assembly's virtual summit, telling world leaders that Lebanon's many challenges are posing an unprecedented threat to its very existence.

Most urgently, the country needs the international community's support to rebuild its economy and its destroyed port. Aoun suggested breaking up the damaged parts of the city into separate areas and so that countries that wish to help can each commit to rebuilding one.

"Beirut today is trying to rise from its rubble, and it is with the solidarity of all the Lebanese and your support that it will heal its wounds and rise as it has previously risen repeatedly throughout history," Aoun said. "There is a great need for the international community to support the reconstruction of destroyed neighborhoods and facilities."

The massive Aug. 4 explosion happened when about 3,000 tons of ammonium nitrates—which had been rotting in a port warehouse for more than six years—ignited. Nearly 200 people were killed, 6,500 injured and a quarter of a million people were left with homes that were not fit to live in.

The cause of the blaze that ignited the chemicals still isn't known, but the explosion is widely seen as the culmination of decades of corruption and mismanagement by Lebanon's ruling class.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
BOARD OF PAROLE
P.O. BOX 502641, Saipan, MP 96950-2641
Tel: Nos.: (670) 664-3300 – 3302 • FAX: (670) 664-3310
E-mail: govbop@pticom.com

TO ALL MEDIA SERVICES
PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

MESSAGE: The Honorable Ralph Dlg. Torres, Governor and the Honorable Arnold I. Palacios, Lt Governor, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to the Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992", hereby give Official Notice that a **Preliminary Hearing** is scheduled for **September 30, 2020 (Wednesday), beginning at 9:00 a.m.**, at the Honorable Vincente T. Seman Building, Department of Correction Facility, Susupe Saipan MP 96950. The following individual (s) will appear before the Hearing Examiner.

I. **Parolee**

1. **DENMAR MALABANAN**
Cr. Cs. No.: 16-0203
B.O.P. No.: 20-005RA

2. **VINCENT SN. NORITA**
Cr. Cs. No.: 17-00050 / 12-0202 / 04-0208
B.O.P No.: 20-008

If you have any question or need additional information, please contact the Board of Parole Office at telephone numbers 664-33—or 664-3302.

/s/ September 24, 2020
Ramon B. Camacho Date
BOP Chairman

Off The Wall

eBay workers who sent spiders to couple to plead guilty

BOSTON (AP)—Four former eBay Inc. employees have agreed to plead guilty to their roles in a campaign of intimidation that included sending live spiders and cockroaches to the home of a Massachusetts couple who ran an online newsletter critical of the auction site, federal prosecutors said Wednesday.

"Four former employees of #eBay are scheduled to plead guilty on Oct. 8 at 2pm via zoom in federal court in #Boston," according to a tweet from the official account of the U.S. attorney's office in Massachusetts. "The defendants are charged w/ participating in a cyberstalking campaign that targeted a Massachusetts couple."

The four expected to plead guilty are Brian Gilbert, 51; Stephanie Popp, 32; Stephanie Stockwell, 26; and Veronica Zea, 26, according to The Boston Globe.

All live in San Jose, California, except for Stockwell, who lives in Redwood City, California.

They are among seven former eBay employees charged in the case, in which the Massachusetts couple had other disturbing items sent to their home, including a funeral wreath and a bloody pig Halloween mask.

They are all charged with conspiracy to commit cyberstalking and conspiracy to tamper with a witness. Their lawyers either declined to comment or didn't immediately return emails seeking comment Wednesday.

The employees also sent pornographic magazines with the husband's name on them to their neighbor's house, planned to break into the couple's garage to install a GPS device on their car, and posted the couple's names and address online, advertising things like yard sales and encouraging strangers to knock on the door if the pair wasn't outside, officials said.

The suspects engaged in a "systematic campaign fueled by the resources of a Fortune 500 company to emotionally and psychologically terrorize this middle-aged couple in Natick," U.S. Attorney Andrew Lelling said at a news conference when charges were announced in June.

An internal investigation was launched after San Jose, California-based eBay was notified by law enforcement of "suspicious actions by its security personnel," company officials wrote in a prepared statement. The employees were ultimately fired, the company said.

Popp was a senior manager of global intelligence at eBay; Gilbert was senior manager of special operations for eBay's Global Security Team; Stockwell was manager of eBay's Global Intelligence Center; and Zea was an eBay contractor who worked as an intelligence analyst in the Global Intelligence Center. Authorities say they were working at eBay at the time of the alleged harassment.

Court documents say the couple was targeted after their newsletter published an article in August 2019 about a lawsuit filed by eBay accusing Amazon of poaching its sellers.

Too much candy: Man dies from eating bags of black licorice

A Massachusetts construction worker's love of black licorice wound up costing him his life. Eating a bag and a half every day for a few weeks threw his nutrients out of whack and caused the 54-year-old man's heart to stop, doctors reported Wednesday.

"Even a small amount of licorice you eat can increase your blood pressure a little bit," said Dr. Neel Butala, a cardiologist at Massachusetts General Hospital who described the case in the New England Journal of Medicine.

The problem is glycyrrhizic acid, found in black licorice and in many other foods and dietary supplements containing licorice root extract. It can cause dangerously low potassium and imbalances in other minerals called electrolytes.

Eating as little as 2 ounces of black licorice a day for two weeks could cause a heart rhythm problem, especially for folks over 40, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration warns.

"It's more than licorice sticks. It could be jelly beans, licorice teas, a lot of things over the counter. Even some beers, like Belgian beers, have this compound in it," as do some chewing tobaccos, said Dr. Robert Eckel, a University of Colorado cardiologist and former American Heart Association president. He had no role in the Massachusetts man's care.

The death was clearly an extreme case. The man had switched from red, fruit-flavored twists to the black licorice version of the candy a few weeks before his death last year. He collapsed while having lunch at a fast-food restaurant. Doctors found he had dangerously low potassium, which led to heart rhythm and other problems. Emergency responders did CPR and he revived but died the next day. ***(AP)***

CNMI SCHOLARSHIP BOARD

Caller Box 10007, Saipan MP 96950 | Telephone No. (670) 664-4750

Ralph DLG. Torres	Geralyn C. Dela Cruz	Charlene S. Masiwemai	Zerlyn Taimanao	Tinian	Diana B. Hocog	Arnold I. Palacios
Governor	Chairwoman	Member	Member	Vacant	Member	Lt. Governor

Pursuant to 1 CMC § 9910, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands Scholarship Board of Directors is hereby giving notice that it will hold its 4th regular board meeting on **Monday, September 28, 2020 at 1:00pm** on Saipan. The meeting will be held at the CNMI Scholarship Office Conference Room.

AGENDA

I. Meeting Call to Order
II. Determination of Quorum
III. Review and Adoption of Agenda
IV. Review and Adoption of Minutes
V. Committee Updates
VI. Old Business
  a. FY 2020 Reduction
VII. New Business
  a. FY 2021 Budget
  b. AY 2020-21 Award Amounts Adjustment
  c. AY 2020-21 Programs
  d. Policy Change, Office Operation and Award Disbursement
  e. Eligibility Requirements
  f. Credit Bureau Reporting
VII. Administrator's Updates
VIII. Announcements & Nest Meeting
IX. Adjournment

/s/ Geralyn C. Dela Cruz, Chairwoman

"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith." 2 Timothy 4:7

†VICENTE (BEN) CABRERA ATTAO

†Vicente (Ben) Cabrera Attao born on July 19, 1952, on the beautiful island of Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, finished his journey on March 26, 2020, in Coeur D Alene, Idaho.

As he made his grand entrance into heaven, he was greeted by:

Parents: †Jose San Nicolas and †Rosario Mendiola Cabrera Attao
Paternal Grandparents: †Vicente Magofna and †Natividad San Nicolas Attao
Maternal Grandparents: †Jose Palacios and †Maria Mendiola Cabrera
Parents-in-law: †Joshua and Hazel Arthur
Granddaughter: †Rosario Barbara Attao Greene
Sisters-in-law: †Helene Sisson, †Veronica Bulltail, †Constance Arthur, †Jo Arthur
Brother-in-law: †Jimmy Arthur
Nephews: †Guy Bulltail, †Cliffton Twohatchet,
Grandnephew: †Robert Hugs Jr.

†Ben's life and love will live on in the hearts of:

Wife: **Elizabeth Arthur Attao**

Daughters: **Ina Attao** and children - Juanda (Karl Ada) Camacho, Naomi Camacho, John Vincent Camacho and Vicente Leon Guerrero
Kristine Attao and children - Kristina/Drew Waits (Roman and William); Samuel Greene, James Greene Jr and Elizabeth Greene
Catherine (Mark Toves) Attao and children - Joseph Attao, Markel Toves, Raymond Mercado/Tiana Quitugua (Davana and Heikuaonaiki), Theresa Toves, Merrick Toves and Markus Toves

Sisters: **Celina A. (Aldebert) Concepcion** and children- Aldebert Jr/Carminadela Concepcion (Aldebert III, Joseph, Brian), Christopher/Natsu Concepcion, Kimberly/Cole Pritchard (Noa) and Michael/Sheryl Concepcion (Damien/Jaden)
Maria Ramona "Marlene" A. (Ricardo) Balajadia and children- Ricardo Jr/Jaclyn Balajadia (Sierra Santiago - Liam) and Brian/Charlyn Balajadia (Brian Conner/Cohen).

Extended Family: **Florencia (Ronald Miraflor) Gacutan** and children - Joel/Fenny Macaraeg (Kyle/Julliene) and Richard/Kristine Macaraeg

Brothers/Sisters-in-law:

Benjamin Arthur and family
Victor Sisson and family
Mary Arthur and family
Joanne "Jo" (Leo) Arthur and family
Mark Arthur and family
Webster Arthur and family
Patricia Arthur and family
Ralph (Linda) Arthur and family
Virginia "Toby" (Tony) Dick and family

And many family and friends in the National Park Service (American Memorial Park, Nez Perce National Historical Park), Mount Carmel Class of 1971, throughout Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, Guam, Lapwai, Lewiston, and Boise, Idaho, Pullman and Tacoma, Washington.

A Memorial Mass will be held on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. at the Mount Carmel Cathedral. Burial of ashes will follow immediately after the mass.

The family would like to extend our deepest appreciation for all the thoughts and prayers extended.
"Un dangkulu na si yu'us ma'ase" and "Hiimaqis Qeci yew yew!" God Bless you all.

"To be absent from the body, is to be in the presence of our Lord."

Science & Technology

German virus app transmitted 1.2M test results in 100 days

BERLIN (AP)—Germany's coronavirus tracing app has been used to transmit 1.2 million test results from labs to users during its first 100 days, officials said Wednesday.

The Corona-Warn-App, downloaded more than 18 million times since its launch in June, was touted by the government as a key tool in the country's effort to contain the spread of the virus.

The app, like others in Europe, has suffered a number of technical hiccups, but Health Minister Jens Spahn insisted it should be considered a success. He noted that most app users can now get their COVID-19 test result sent directly to their smartphones, without having to wait for their doctor to inform them.

"The faster transmission of test results makes a huge difference," Spahn said, adding that the tracing of possible contacts is all the more effective the sooner it begins.

Almost 5,000 people with positive test results have so far used the app to warn others they were in close contact with, he said.

Spahn said the warning messages displayed by the app, which have caused confusion and annoyance among some users, would be improved to provide clearer guidance.

Getting precise data on the number of people alerted about possible exposures has been hampered by Germany's strict privacy rules, which mean the app stores all data only on users' phones and not a central server.

Tim Hoettges, the chief executive of Deutsche Telekom, which developed the app with software giant SAP, said more than 90% of labs in Germany are now able to transmit results directly to users.

DEATH & FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

†Concepcion Igisaiar Concepcion

affectionately known as
"Chong Justo", "Chong EMPI", Connie

In celebration of her new life she now joins:

Spouse: †Justo (Dela) Cruz Concepcion
Parents: †Joaquin Seman Igisaiar
†Maria Quidachay Aguero Igisaiar
†Candelaria Ada Igisaiar
Children: †Felix Ray Igisaiar Concepcion
†Ken Robert Igisaiar Concepcion
Grandson: †Joey Frank Concepcion Mesa
Brothers: †Julian Q. Igisaiar
†John Q. Igisaiar
Sister In Law: †Margarita Blas Igisaiar

Love and Memories will forever be cherished and remembered in the hearts of her:

Aunt: Julia Q. Barto and Family
Brother: Francisco Q. Igisaiar and Family
Sister: Maria "Nan Elang" I. Cruz and Family
Godson: James A. Villagomez

Children / In Laws:
Maryann C. Babauta / Joseph Babauta and Family (Guam)
Patricia C. Mesa / Jose Mesa and Family (California)
Joseph I. Concepcion / Joanne R. Concepcion and Family (Virginia)
Rosa C. Lecias / Edward Lecias and Family (California)
Vicente I. Concepcion / Glynis M. Concepcion and Family (Guam)
(†Felix I. Concepcion) / Bernadette T. Tajalle and Family (Guam)
Kathryn Magers and Family (Arizona)
Remedios C. Macayan / Ernani Macayan and Family (Saipan)
Manuel I. Concepcion / Ann Cruz and Family (Guam)
Alice I. Concepcion / Jose T. Castro and Family (Saipan)
(†Ken Robert I. Concepcion) / Normalyn Y. Concepcion and Family (California)

In addition to numerous nieces, nephews, grandchildren, great grandchildren, great-great grandchildren and extended family members and friends.

Daily Mass is being offered at 6am at our Lady of Mount Carmel Cathedral.
On October 2, 2020, her remains will be escorted from CHCC to Mount Carmel Cathedral, at 7:30am.
Mass of Christian Burial will be at 10am followed by interment services, where she will be laid to a peaceful rest with her beloved, at Mount Carmel Cemetery.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.
Si Yu'us Ma'ase-Olomwaay.
GINEN I FAMILIA

TECH Q&A: Tech tricks to keep using Windows 7 are risky

By STEVE ALEXANDER
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

Some readers are reluctant to upgrade or replace vulnerable Windows 7 PCs, even though Microsoft no longer provides security updates for them.

Instead, the readers are searching for technical tricks that would allow them to keep using the Windows 7 PCs while isolating them from other computers on a network. While that sounds good, it's not practical.

Last week, Michael Kehoe of Minneapolis asked how he could isolate a vulnerable Windows 7 PC on his home network (see tinyurl.com/y5on8xko). I said that it was possible to do that (using a Wi-Fi network technology called a subnet), but that it was technically challenging for consumers.

But reader Bill Fuhrmann of Brooklyn Park, Minn., suggested another way Kehoe might isolate his Windows 7 PC on a home Wi-Fi network. Rather than set up a subnet, Fuhrmann said, why not put the Windows 7 PC on a secondary "guest Wi-Fi network," a feature provided with some newer wireless routers (see tinyurl.com/y4ahn44a and tinyurl.com/y5g6on2s).

Such routers simultaneously run two Wi-Fi networks, one for your personal use and the other for your guests. Supposedly, these two networks can never connect to each other. So, if you let friends use the guest network, any malware lurking on their phones or computers can't infect the computers on your personal Wi-Fi network. Likewise, if you put poorly protected devices—such as some wristband fitness trackers, smartwatches or voice-activated music speakers—on the guest network, their security flaws can't imperil your personal network.

But what if the guest and personal networks really aren't separate from each other? Some researchers claim that it's possible for hackers to first take over your guest Wi-Fi network, then use that foothold to steal data from your personal network by using "cross-router data leaks" (see tinyurl.com/y4cyw94r CQ).

The researchers said the best solution is to use separate wireless routers for personal and guest networks. But that would add cost and complexity of running a guest Wi-Fi network.

My opinion: Windows 7 isn't safe for consumers to use, and simple Wi-Fi networking tricks aren't likely to make up for that. If you have a Windows 7 PC, upgrade or replace it.

Q: My Windows 8.1 PC, an HP Pavilion 20, has become very slow. I ran several cleaning and anti-malware programs, ran diagnostic software and deleted some temporary files, but those things didn't help. I also checked the hard drive, which has plenty of space. The Windows Task Manager shows that the Microsoft Internet Explorer 11 browser is using more than 60 % of my processor time and RAM (computer chip) memory capacity. Do I need more RAM memory?

A: You should replace Internet Explorer 11, an older web browser that's prone to slowdowns. Microsoft still provides technical support for IE 11, but no improvements. Try the free Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox or Microsoft Edge browsers, all of which are being updated regularly. Edge initially only worked on Windows 10, but a Windows 8.1 version is now available.

Adding RAM might make your PC run a little faster for some tasks, such as Web browsing. But its probably not worth adding RAM to a seven-year-old PC that's nearing the end of its useful life. You would be better off putting the money toward a new computer.

Science Matters
Carsten Egevang photo
Ice Age land bridge led from Asia to Americas
Arctic ice cap
SIBERIA
NORTH AMERICA
ASIA
Ancient Zhokov dog
Greenland sled dog
Alaskan malamute
Siberian husky
Pleistocene wolf (prehistoric)
Siberian wolf
Gray wolf
Wolf
Dog
Wolf-like dogs old friends of humans
Sled dogs howl together, just as wolves do
Sled dogs are a much older family and adapted to Arctic conditions much earlier than once thought. They have worked for humans for over 9,500 years.
Sled dog DNA reveals their past
1 DNA from a 9,500-year-old dog from Siberia's Zhokhov island was analyzed
2 It showed that different types of sled dogs evolved extremely early
Led to a new interpretation of husky history
2,000 to 3,000 years ago?
Until now, biologists have thought that the different breeds of sled dogs emerged 2,000 to 3,000 years ago – in late antiquity
9,500 years ago?
Now appears the Zhokhov dog and sled dogs had the same common origin in Siberia more than 9,500 years ago
33,000 years ago
DNA of a Siberian wolf that lived 33,000 years ago and new dog DNA evidence show that dogs interbred with wolves that long ago
Iditarod race team
Source: Mikkel Sinding of University of Copenhagen; Shyam Gopalakrishnan of Globe Institute; Science magazine; TNS Photos
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service
© 2020 TNS

Life & Style

AP
This image released by Disney/Marvel Studios' shows Scarlett Johansson in a scene from "Black Widow."

Disney delays

'Black Widow,' Spielberg's 'West Side Story'

NEW YORK (AP)—The Walt Disney Co. has further postponed its next mega-movies from Marvel, including "Black Widow," while also postponing Steven Spielberg's "West Side Story" a full year in the company's latest recalibration due to the pandemic.

Ten of Disney's top films shuffled release dates Wednesday, uprooting several of the company's major fall releases. The Scarlett Johansson Marvel movie "Black Widow," last set for Nov. 6, heads to May 7 of next year. Instead of opening next month, Kenneth Branagh's murder mystery "Death on the Nile" moves to Dec. 18. That was the date set for "West Side Story," but Spielberg's musical will instead debut in December 2021.

Disney didn't entirely abandon the season. The Pixar release "Soul" remains on the calendar for late November. "The Empty Man," a horror release from the former 20th Century Fox, is moving up from December to Oct. 23.

But the delays of Disney's upcoming blockbusters reinforce the growing exodus from 2020 among the blockbusters that hadn't already uprooted to next year. Following tepid ticket sales for Warner Bros.' "Tenet" in a U.S. theatrical marketplace where about 30% of cinemas remain closed, Warner Bros.' "Wonder Woman 1984" moved from October to Christmas and Universal Pictures' "Candyman" postponed to next year.

Given the interconnected nature of Marvel releases, the latest delay of "Black Widow" had a domino effect on other films. Destin Daniel Cretton's "Shang Chi and the Legend of the Ten Rings," starring Simu Liu as the martial arts hero, is now slated for July 9, 2021, instead of May 7. Chloé Zhao "Eternals," with Angelina Jolie, Gemma Chan and Kumail Nanjiani, moves from February to Nov. 5, 2021.

"Marvel made the right and responsible decision," Nanjiani said on Twitter. "There's a pandemic. Nothing is more important than health and lives. I can't tell people to go to a movie theater until I feel safe going to one."

The Ben Affleck-Ana de Armas thriller "Deep Water" was also pushed from November until August next year.

Carole Baskin of 'Tiger King' fame sued for defamation

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—Carole Baskin, who became a pop culture sensation due to Netflix's docuseries "Tiger King," is being sued for defamation by a former assistant. As part of the lawsuit, the daughters of Baskin's former husband are seeking more information about what happened to their father, who disappeared mysteriously more than two decades ago.

The amended complaint to an earlier lawsuit was filed Tuesday in state court in Tampa by Don Lewis' three daughters, Donna Pettis, Lynda Sanchez, and Gale Rathbone, as well as his former assistant, Anne McQueen. It also names Baskin's current husband and her tiger rescue sanctuary as defendants.

The lawsuit said that Baskin defamed McQueen by posting a video diary entry on YouTube earlier this month in which she says McQueen played a role in Lewis' disappearance. Those statements and embezzlement allegations also were made on Baskin's website, "bigcatrescue.org," the lawsuit said.

The lawsuit also is seeking what is known as a "pure bill of discovery," which allows information in a case to be gathered before a civil complaint is filed.

Lebanese teen from Beirut joins global pop band

Ardakani

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates (AP)—A teenage singer from Lebanon this week became the latest to join a global pop band formed by Simon Fuller, the man behind the Spice Girls and "American Idol," which aims to transform young unknowns into internet superstars.

That may seem a grandiose ambition during a global pandemic. But Now United, with over a dozen teenagers drawn from across the world, is plowing ahead, recording and filming new music in the skyscraper-studded city of Dubai this week.

Nour Ardakani, 18, told The Associated Press during her visit Wednesday to the United Arab Emirates that she's "honored" to represent Lebanon.

"Arts and music are so important in times like these," she said. "Lebanon is going through so much."

Beirut, Ardakani's hometown, has been grappling with an array of crises: an economic collapse, a worsening coronavirus outbreak and a massive explosion that demolished businesses and homes across the capital last month.

Actor Ryan Reynolds looking to invest in Welsh soccer club

Reynolds

WREXHAM, Wales (AP)—Hollywood stars Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney could be making an unlikely foray into the soccer business.

Wrexham, a Welsh team which plays in the fifth tier of English soccer, revealed Wednesday that Reynolds and McElhenney are the "two extremely well-known individuals" the club has previously said are interested in investing 2 million pounds ($2.5 million).

Reynolds is a Canadian-born actor best known for starring in the "Deadpool" movies. McElhenney, a friend of Reynolds, is an American actor and director who was the creator of TV show "It's Always Sunny in Philadelphia."

Wrexham has been a fan-owned club since 2011. Members of its supporters trust voted at a special general meeting Tuesday in favor of allowing talks to start with Reynolds and McElhenney.

"In due course," Wrexham said in a statement, "Mr. McElhenney and Mr. Reynolds will put forward their vision for Wrexham AFC and proposal for members to vote on at a second special general meeting."

The National League—the division in which Wrexham plays—has yet to start its season because of the coronavirus pandemic.

Warring kids are barriers in couple's relationship

DEAR ABBY: I got married to a wonderful guy 14 years ago, but after a year of marriage, our children (his 10-year-old and my 12- and 13-year-olds) couldn't stand one another and caused a lot of problems. I was brokenhearted when he gave me divorce papers. I moved out but continued to date him without our kids around.

Seven years ago, after his son moved out, I moved back in, but he won't ask me to remarry him. My kids get along fine with him, but his son hates me and refuses to come to any holiday or birthday celebration that I host.

Should I move out and move on? I feel like I have wasted 14 years of my life.

HOPELESS IN OHIO

DEAR HOPELESS: I wish you had mentioned why this "wonderful guy's" son hates you. Could it be he blames you for the failure of his parents' marriage, or was it something else? That this man has allowed his son to dictate how the two of you will spend your lives is very sad. Unless you can accept living with the status quo (which has to be painful), the answer to your question is: Move on.

DEAR ABBY: In 2014, I loaned a family friend $5,000. At the time, and ever since, I never asked the reason for the loan. Over time we lost touch. However, we recently reconnected and decided to go on a road/camping trip throughout the West. Three days in, we both realized it was a poor idea to travel together for an extended period of time. He has now become quite nasty and speaks ill of me. Should I write and request payment of the loan or let it go?

OUT OF POCKET IN VEGAS

DEAR OUT OF POCKET: If you had the forethought to put IN WRITING the fact you were lending this person money, you have a prayer of having the loan repaid. If you didn't, you can try writing to this family (former) friend, but legally it won't be worth the paper your letter is written on. If that's the case, consider this an expensive lesson.

P.S. Because no effort was made over the last six years to repay your generosity, your road trip was doomed before it started.

DEAR ABBY: I have a very good friend I've known for 18 years. Without fail, every time we're on the phone and she gets another call, she'll say, "Oh, let me call you right back," but she never does. Sometimes days will go by until I call her or she calls me, and then she acts like nothing happened.

We could be in the middle of a conversation but she doesn't call back. Or, she'll call me while she's driving somewhere and end the call when she has arrived at her destination, if she hasn't already hung up to take another call.

Is she a true friend? What should I say or do? After years of feeling unimportant in her life, it has really started to get to me lately.

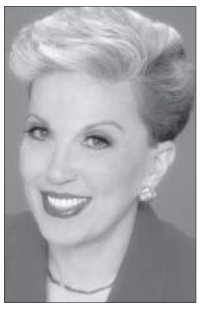
NOT FINISHED IN THE EAST

DEAR NOT FINISHED: Your longtime friend is inconsiderate. Rather than wait endlessly, call HER back the same day. And when you do, tell her exactly how her lack of concern for your feelings has made you feel. Do not, however, expect her to like it, because inconsiderate people rarely do when it is pointed out to them.

For everything you need to know about wedding planning, order "How to Have a Lovely Wedding." Send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Wedding Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE



Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

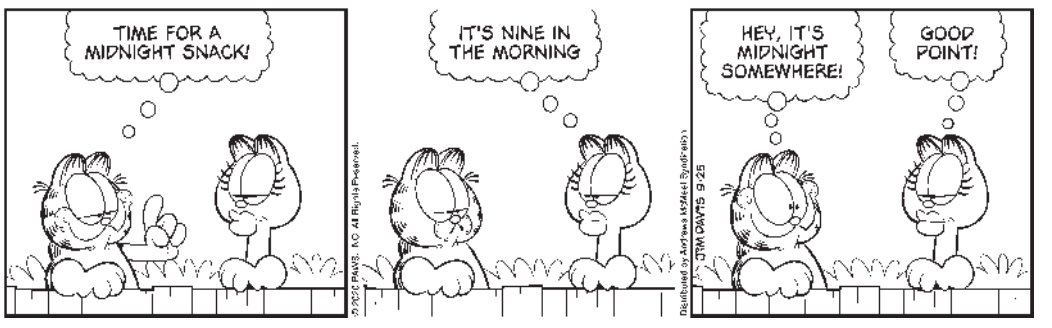
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

I GOT A PERFECT SCORE ON MY QUIZ.
YOU GOT A PERFECT SCORE??
WHAT DID YOU GET? IF YOU MISSED ANY, YOU OWE ME 25 CENTS.
I RAN OUT OF TIME! I'D HAVE HAD A PERFECT SCORE TOO IF I'D HAD A FEW MORE MINUTES!
WHAT DID YOU GET?
IT'S BIOLOGICAL! GIRLS MATURE FASTER THAN BOYS! YOU JUST GOT A BETTER GRADE BECAUSE YOU'RE A GIRL! IT'S NOT FAIR!
PAY UP.
MAYBE IT'S OPPOSITE DAY! MAYBE ALL THESE Xs MEAN MY ANSWERS ARE CORRECT! MAYBE YOUR "A" IS REALLY AN "F"! THAT MUST BE IT! I WIN THE BET!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

SO... I THINK DAD LIKES THAT NEW COFFEE TOO MUCH.
HOW SO.
HE THOUGHT I WANTED SOME, SO NOW HE'S LOCKED HIMSELF IN HIS OFFICE.
OKAY. I HAVE A KEY FOR THIS VERY SITUATION.
HE'S DONE THIS BEFORE?
YEAH. HE HOLED UP WITH A FRENCH ROAST FOR A WEEK BACK IN '02.
9-25

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

BARK!! ROWF BARK YAP YAP
GRRR... BARK... YAP YAP!! BARK GRRR ROWF BARK
YOU SHOULD BARK LIKE THAT. YOU WOULD SOUND TOUGH!
YEAH, EXCEPT YOU JUST SAID, "I LIKE BALLET SLIPPERS."

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Letter before iota
6 "Frontline" airer
9 LAPD alert
12 Roll with a hole
13 Stephen of "Still Crazy"
14 Roman 1051
15 Uneasy feeling
16 Brainiac
18 Inventor Edison
20 Green Gables girl
21 Discoverer's call
23 Moment
24 Sports bar fixture
25 Padlocked fastener
27 Tourist's query
29 Treat badly
31 Alaskan capital
35 Military group
37 End-of-wk. cry
38 Supports
41 Green prefix
43 Day- — paint
44 Author Wiesel
45 Planet with rings
47 Asian appetizer
49 "— were the days!"
52 PBS funder
53 — Kippur
54 Scalawag
55 Goof up
56 Guitar master Paul
57 Ruhr Valley city

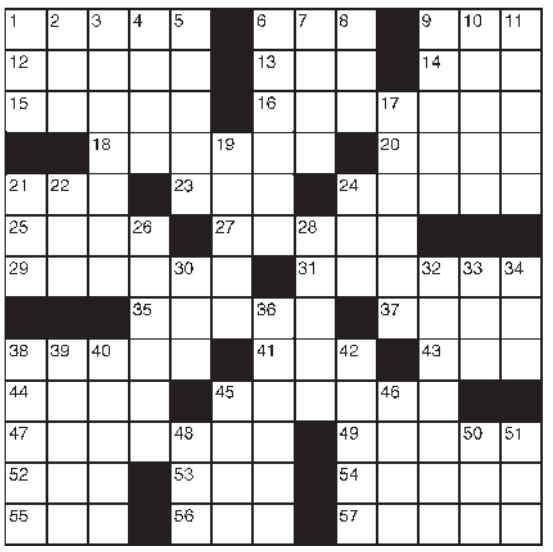
DOWN

1 TV itinerary abbr.
2 Solo of "Star Wars"
3 Messy picnic game
4 TV/radio host John
5 Choir members
6 Sermonize
7 Pleads
8 Droop
9 Church cries
10 Runway model?
11 Fancy bathroom fixture
17 "— you heard?"
19 Made kittenish sounds
21 Resistance unit
22 "Bali —"
24 Capote nickname
26 Prepare for a kiss
28 Kick out
30 Airline to Sweden
32 Spiked Yule drinks
33 Have a bug
34 Roswell sighting
36 Kingdoms
38 Designer Geoffrey
39 Rags-to-riches author
40 Humidor item
42 Unconventional
45 — gin fizz
46 Frat letters
48 Popeye's Olive
50 Take to court
51 Poetic dusk

Solution time: 25 mins.

S	L	A	P		T	E	D		S	T	A	N	
T	A	X	I		F	N	C		I	A	I	O	
A	R	F	S		N	F	W		A	P	T	S	
B	A	I	T	I	C		N	O	B	W	A	Y	
			O	D	F			V	I	A			
C	O	A	L		N	O	T	O	F	T	E	N	
A	W	N			T	R	J			E	P	I	
T	E	N	N	Y	S	O	N		I	R	A	N	
		E	A	L			G	O	T				
G	A	R	G	I	F		S	N	A	C	K	S	
I	D	I	G		D	A	T		I	O	I	A	
B	A	C	F		A	R	F		I	C	F	S	
D	Y	F	D		M	A	N		C	F	F	S	

Yesterday's answer 9-25



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Catherine Zeta-Jones, 51; Will Smith, 52; Michael Douglas, 76; Barbara Walters, 91.

Happy Birthday: Push yourself to the next level. Put the past behind you, and take on a schedule that will help you gain momentum. Stay focused on what's important, and use your intelligence, charm and forceful persuasion to get what you want. The rewards will be great if you take control and do as you please. Stop giving in, and start taking over. Your numbers are 4, 11, 22, 24, 30, 39, 46.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Keep moving. The less time you have to think about situations that irk you, the better. Anger and frustration will slow you down. Live in the moment, and focus on what you can accomplish, not the impossible. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Abide by the rules, and be forthright with information and documentation. Refuse to get involved in someone's investment. Put your time and money into what will help you get ahead, and do not stop until you are happy with the results. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Fix up your surroundings, and get in touch with mentally stimulating people. The ideas you come up with will lead to a joint venture that can bring in extra cash. Don't share secrets someone trusted you to keep. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Look for alternative ways to handle your financial, medical and contractual affairs. Use your imagination, and rely on your intuition to help you find solutions. Refuse to let your emotions stand between you and doing what's right or best for everyone. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Listen to what others have to offer, but when it comes to matters concerning business, reputation or position, take the most secure path. Risk is not an option. Make love a priority, and keep the peace. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* A change will lift your spirits. Do something you've never done. Reach out to someone who shares your interests. A shift in the way you live will lead to an unexpected opportunity. Older and younger people will offer insights. ✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Deal with domestic problems quickly and efficiently, and move on to a matter that means more to you. Think and act fast before someone has a chance to come between you and what you want. Stay in control, and do what pleases you. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Remain objective when dealing with colleagues, friends and relatives. You are best to be a mediator, not a disruptor. Size up if current trends are influencing whatever situation you face. Act in good faith, and you'll get positive results. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Take advantage of social media, and expand your interests and circle of friends. Engage in intellectual changes, and enjoy the company of friends and family. Romance is on the rise and will bring you closer to the one you love. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't labor over what you can't resolve or let anyone push you in a direction you don't want to go. Make adjustments to your surroundings that will ensure you have a place to retreat. Make peace of mind your priority. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Keep your thoughts and opinions to yourself. The less information you share, the better. Handle joint finances or ventures with care. Arguing will not help you resolve issues. Make personal improvements, and nurture meaningful relationships. Romance is encouraged. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Offer suggestions, hands-on help and your time, but don't donate or pay for someone's mistake. A change of plans will end up benefiting you if you remain calm. Finish what you start, and focus on health and fitness. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are intense, charismatic and helpful. You are determined and ambitious.

Visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn. Copyright 2020 Andrews McMeel Syndication

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	1		5		8		3	
		5				2		
	7						9	
		9	3		4	5		
	6						2	
		2	6		1	7		
	4						1	
		6				9		
	3		7		9		5	

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 9/25

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

4	7	9	5	3	6	8	1	2
3	5	1	8	4	2	7	9	6
6	2	8	7	1	9	5	4	3
7	9	6	4	5	1	3	2	8
1	8	3	9	2	7	6	5	4
2	4	5	6	8	3	9	7	1
5	3	7	2	6	4	1	8	9
9	1	4	3	7	8	2	6	5
8	6	2	1	9	5	4	3	7

Difficulty Level ★★★★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ARE YOU EVER PUCKISH? Solution: 11 letters

M	I	S	H	Y	P	E	E	K	H	S	E	V	I	L
H	H	C	R	A	M	K	N	S	U	N	C	W	E	A
L	S	S	H	I	O	A	I	O	T	C	A	S	I	U
O	I	I	I	J	R	K	R	I	R	C	W	L	M	G
O	L	J	V	P	R	O	C	A	K	A	A	U	A	H
F	L	O	E	A	M	I	Z	Y	S	A	N	D	M	A
M	Y	V	L	U	N	I	Y	H	N	Y	T	I	A	B
O	D	I	H	G	N	K	B	N	T	R	I	C	K	L
T	E	A	S	E	S	U	O	N	F	V	C	C	C	E
L	T	L	S	I	C	Y	U	Z	A	Y	U	O	O	L
O	A	S	R	K	E	A	N	A	D	P	A	U	C	V
B	M	F	L	D	J	E	C	N	A	R	P	L	A	I
M	I	I	F	U	N	N	Y	Y	F	O	O	G	P	S
A	N	A	U	G	H	T	Y	L	U	R	N	U	E	H
G	A	M	U	S	I	N	G	S	C	A	V	O	R	T

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Amusing, Animated, Annoyed, Antic, Arch, Bouncy, Caper, Cavort, Cockamamie, Craziness, Daft, Elvish, Enticing, Frisky, Funny, Gambol, Goofy, Humorous, Hype, Impish, Jaunty, Joke, Jovial, Knavish, Larkish, Laughable, Live, Ludic, Naughty, Play, Prance, Prank, Puck, Romp, Silly, Swashbuckling, Teases, Tomfool, Trick, Unruly, Wacky, Zany

Yesterday's Answer: Benefits

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He's a Herro: Heat near NBA Finals

FLORIDA (AP)—Tyler Herro should still be in college. He's not, but is still a student.

He carries a red spiral-bound notebook with him at all times, jotting down notes when things pop into his head. What worked, what didn't, where he thinks he can get better and how he's feeling after a game.

"It helps me get locked in, helps me focus," Herro said.

Whatever he read Wednesday night helped him put together the game of his life—and carry the Miami Heat a win away from the NBA Finals. The 20-year-old Herro scored a Heat rookie-record 37 points and the Heat beat the Boston Celtics 112-109 on Wednesday night in Game 4 of the Eastern Conference finals.

"He has a great competitive humility about him," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "He has a confidence. He has a fearlessness that is uncommon. But he's humble enough to work, to be coachable, to take the mentorship from the veteran players that we have on our team, and he just continues to gain more confidence as we go."

Jimmy Butler scored 24 points, Goran Dragic added 22 and Bam Adebayo—dealing with a bit of shoulder soreness—had 20 points and 12 rebounds to help the Heat take a 3-1 lead in the best-of-seven series. They can close it out Friday night in Game 5.

Jayson Tatum scored all 28 of his points in the second half for the Celtics. They erased a double-digit deficit to take a one-point lead in the fourth—then saw the Heat run away again. Jaylen Brown scored 21 points, Kemba Walker added 20, Gordon Hayward had 14 and Marcus Smart finished with 10 points and 11 assists.

"I didn't score in the first half. That's unacceptable," Tatum said. "I know I have to play better. That's what I tried to do."

Brown's 3-pointer with 16 seconds left cut Miami's lead to 107-104. Herro went to the line 2.1 seconds later and coolly swished a pair, stretching the lead back to five. The Celtics got within two points twice, Butler made a free throw with 1.1 seconds remaining, and Boston—out of timeouts—never got a desperation shot off.

AP

Miami Heat guard Tyler Herro (14) goes up for a shot against Boston Celtics' Gordon Hayward during the first half of Game 4 of an NBA Eastern Conference final, Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.

"At the end of the day, we got to find a way," Walker said. "That's really all we can do. We can do it. It's about pride. It's about wanting to do it. Next game we got to come out and show that."

Herro made 14 of 21 shots from the floor, 5 for 10 from 3-point range and became just the second 20-year-old in NBA playoff history to score at least 37 points in a game. The other: Magic Johnson, who had 42 in Game 6 of the 1980 NBA Finals for the Los Angeles Lakers.

"I feel good about it," Herro said. "There's a lot of work to be done still. We're up 3-1."

And the Heat rookie playoff record was 27 by Dwyane Wade in 2004; it now belongs to Herro, who scored 17 points in the fourth alone.

Daniel Theis scored with 8:44 left to put Boston up 85-84, the Celtics' first lead since 25-24 with 11:19 left in the second quarter. It was Boston's only lead in the second half and it lasted just 16 seconds. Adebayo scored to give Miami the lead, and Herro basically carried the load from there.

"Herro's shot-making tonight was ... the difference in the game," Celtics coach Brad Stevens said. "Jimmy was great late. Adebayo was his typical self. Dragic made some big plays. But Herro was ridiculously good tonight. That rim must have looked like the ocean to him."

The Celtics shot exactly 8-for-20 in each of the first two quarters and that, combined with 11 turnovers, helped the Heat go into the break with a 50-44 lead.

But Tatum's first basket after an 0-for-7 start sparked what became a 6-for-7 finish to the third quarter for him, he had 16 of Boston's 32 points in that period and the Celtics were within 77-76 going into the fourth.

The Heat, behind their youngest player, wouldn't fold.

"Nothing Tyler does surprises me," Adebayo said.

Back to work

Kevin Love was back on the court in Cleveland. Karl Anthony-Towns got to work in Minnesota and his old coach started to mold his new team in New York.

After six months without one, it felt so good for some NBA teams to practice again that even Allen Iverson might've enjoyed it.

"I've never seen a layup drill with such intensity," Atlanta coach Lloyd Pierce said. "We did a full-court layup drill and the guys were clapping and cheering. You know they haven't practiced in a long time if they're excited about layup drills."

The teams that didn't qualify for the restart of the NBA season at Walt Disney World could begin voluntary workouts Wednesday to start preparing for their next game—whenever that is.

"As of right now, we don't know when next season will begin, but there's obviously a lot of work to be done between now and then," Tom Thibodeau said after the Knicks practiced.

The league allowed those eight clubs (Atlanta, Golden State, New York, Minnesota, Charlotte, Cleveland, Chicago and Detroit) to have voluntary team workouts by creating their own bubbles, where players and staff stay together and are tested daily for the coronavirus.

While the other 22 teams had all played at least eight games at Disney, the bottom eight had been restricted to only voluntary individual workouts since the NBA season was suspended on March 11 because of the pandemic.

Rocket Mortgage FieldHouse in Cleveland had essentially been vacant since then. For a young team like the Cavaliers, the interruption was a double blow since they had just undergone a coaching change and were playing their best ball of the season under J.B. Bickerstaff, who was promoted following John Beilein's stunning resignation.

Love said it was "paramount" for the team to get together and make up for lost time.

Lakers try to regain control vs confident Nuggets in Game 4

FLORIDA (AP)—The Denver Nuggets don't sound like an underdog.

Jamal Murray believes they should be leading the Western Conference finals. They aren't, though they say there is still a long way to go in the series.

If the Los Angeles Lakers don't start playing better, the Nuggets might be right.

Outplayed for much of the last 1 1/2 games, the top-seeded Lakers look to regain control of the series when the teams play Game 4 on Thursday night.

The Lakers were careless with the ball and not disciplined enough on defense in Game 2, when they needed Anthony Davis' 3-pointer as time expired to avoid a loss. Instead of cutting down on their turnovers and fouls, Los Angeles repeated them in Game 3, helping the Nuggets build a big lead on their way to a 114-106 victory that cut the Lakers' lead to 2-1.

"It's not going to be winning ingredients for us if we continue to do that and we knew that. Even after Game 2, we talked about that," LeBron James said.

"Got to be better than that Game 4."

The Nuggets have been behind by two games in all three playoff series, so they were stung but not sunk when Davis denied them in Game 2. They came back and controlled much of Game 3 and responded with poise after their one faulty stretch, when the Lakers cut a 20-point deficit to three.

"This gives us that much more confidence going into this series, letting them know that we're here, we're in this for the long haul," Denver coach Michael Malone said. "We're going to continue to fight and do whatever we can."

The Lakers easily recovered from their other two losses in the playoffs. They dropped Game 1 against Portland in the first round and won the next four. When they lost Game 1 again in the second round against Houston, they followed with six straight victories, so aren't going to overreact to another defeat.

"We're still up 2-1. We have control of the series," Davis said. "We've just got to come out in Game 4 and play our style of basketball."

But Davis acknowledged that his two-rebound performance Tuesday was "unacceptable," and he noted the team mistakes that the Lakers didn't clean up from the previous game. Los Angeles had a 16-point lead early in the second half of Game 2 and could have coasted to a second straight easy victory, but had to scramble at the end after finishing with 24 turnovers and 30 fouls.

The Nuggets then scored 25 points in Game 3 off the Lakers' turnovers—with James committing a game-high six of them in his 26th playoff triple-double.

"When you give up 25 points off 16 turnovers, that's not good," James said. "We did the same thing in Game 2. We had 24 turnovers and luckily it didn't bite us in the butt, but it should have.

"We've just got to do a better job of that and it's a conscious effort that not only starts with me because I'm the point guard of the team, and it trickles down to everyone else."

If the Lakers win it, they will be a victory away from their first NBA Finals appearance since their last championship in 2010, but won't be able to get comfortable. The Nuggets overcame 3-1 deficits against both Utah and the Clippers, so they won't be fazed by facing elimination.

Rays edge Yanks in battle for AL East title

AP
Tampa Bay Rays catcher Michael Perez, left, tags out New York Mets' Pete Alonso at home plate during the fifth inning of a baseball game Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2020, in New York.

NEW YORK (AP)—Randy Arozarena homered twice and the Tampa Bay Rays clinched their first AL East title in 10 years Wednesday night with an 8-5 victory over the New York Mets.

Joey Wendle and Brandon Lowe also went deep to help Tyler Glasnow (5-1) win his fifth straight decision. Tampa Bay will be home at quirky Tropicana Field for a best-of-three first-round playoff series beginning next Tuesday.

It is the third division crown for the thrifty Rays, who also won the AL East in 2008 and 2010. Their inaugural season was 1998.

After missing a chance to clinch Tuesday, the Rays went into Wednesday again needing just a win or a New York Yankees loss against Toronto to lock up the division championship.

The Rays (37-20) broke a 2-all tie in the sixth on Arozarena's two-run homer off Michael Wacha (1-4) and pulled away.

As has become customary during this pandemic-shortened season, the celebration was muted. After Nick Anderson fanned Andres Gimenez for the final out, the closer exchanged a hug with catcher Mike Zunino. The Rays filed out of the dugout and someone shot off a canister filled with confetti that eventually dotted the grass and dirt at Citi Field.

Blue Jays 14, Yankees 1

Catcher Gary Sanchez made two of the Yankees' season-high four errors and Toronto damaged New York hopes in its race for home-field advantage in the first round of the playoffs.

Danny Jansen homered twice and the Blue Jays reduced their magic number to one for clinching a wild-card berth and their first postseason appearance since 2016.

Indians 3, White Sox 2

Shane Bieber lowered his ERA to 1.63 in his final regular-season start, the lowest in the American League since Luis Tiant's 1.60 for Cleveland in 1968, and Jordan Luplow hit a game-ending home run that gave the Indians a win over Chicago and dropped the White Sox into a tie with Minnesota for the AL Central lead.

Twins 7, Tigers 6

Jake Cave hit a pair of home runs, Kenta Maeda finished off his regular season with another strong start and Minnesota beat Detroit to take over sole possession of the AL Central lead for the first time since late August.

Eddie Rosario added a two-run homer for the Twins (35-22), who have won four straight. They moved a half-game ahead of the second-place White Sox (34-22).

Athletics 6, Dodgers 4

Ramon Laureano broke a ninth-inning tie with a two-run homer and Oakland beat Los Angeles in a matchup of West division champions.

Laureano also had an RBI single in the seventh and made a diving catch in center field.

Liam Hendriks pitched the ninth for his 14th save.

Giants 7, Rockies 2

Mauricio Dubon hit a three-run homer off reliever Yency Almonte in the fifth inning and San Francisco defeated Colorado to move barely in front in a crowded NL wild-card race.

Evan Longoria also went deep for the Giants. Brandon Belt added three hits and walked twice.

Phillies 12, Nationals 3

Given a chance to DH so he could ease the burden on his bothersome back, Bryce Harper homered twice against his former team, helping Philadelphia beat Washington and eliminate the 2019 World Series champions from the playoff race.

The Nationals were knocked out of postseason contention hours later when San Francisco beat Colorado.

Royals 12, Cardinals 3

Salvador Perez and Franchy Cordero each had two homers and five RBI, and out-of-contention Kansas City pummeled playoff-chasing St. Louis in their series finale.

The Cardinals (27-26) remain 3 1/2 games back of first-place Chicago in the NL Central but had their edge for the No. 2 spot in the division nearly wiped out.

Braves 9, Marlins 4

Dansby Swanson hit a three-run homer and the Braves cruised to their third straight win over the Marlins, in a game overshadowed by Max Fried's early departure with an ankle injury.

The Braves ace was making his final regular-season start, hoping to boost his NL Cy Young Award credentials ahead of starting Game 1 in the NL playoffs next week.

Reds 6, Brewers 1

Joey Votto homered for his first hit all season against Milwaukee, Trevor Bauer dominated on short rest and the Cincinnati Reds won a pivotal series for playoff contention.

The Reds are in position for a wild-card playoff berth after taking two of three from their NL Central rival.

Angels 5, Padres 2

Padres starter Mike Clevinger was pulled after one inning because of a tight right biceps, potentially a big setback for playoff-bound San Diego.

Shohei Ohtani, Justin Upton and Anthony Bemboom homered for Los Angeles.

Pirates 2, Cubs 1

Adam Frazier and Ke'Bryan Hayes led off the bottom of the first inning with back-to-back homers off Kyle Hendricks, sending Pittsburgh past Chicago.

The Cubs clinched their fifth postseason spot in six years on Tuesday night and maintain a fairly healthy lead in the NL Central with four days left in the regular season. But they've scored just nine runs total while dropping four of their last five games.

Mariners 3, Astros 2

Nick Margevicius tossed six shutout innings, Ty France drove in a pair of runs and Seattle kept its slim postseason hopes alive.

The Mariners closed out the home portion of their schedule taking two of three from the Astros and enter the final weekend three back of Houston with four games to play for second place in the AL West.

Red Sox 9, Orioles 1

Nathan Eovaldi struck out eight over six scoreless innings, Rafael Devers hit a three-run double that capped a six-run third and the Red Sox beat the Orioles in a matchup of the AL East's worst teams.

Diamondbacks 7, Rangers 3

Rookie Wyatt Mathisen hit his first two career homers, fellow rookie Daulton Varsho knocked in the go-ahead run with a triple, and the Diamondbacks rallied over the Rangers.

Tiger returns to Zozo Championship

LOS ANGELES — Tiger Woods will defend his title at the Zozo Championship.

Woods announced Wednesday he committed to the Zozo Championship at Sherwood Country Club in Thousand Oaks, California.

"I am excited to defend my title at the (Zozo Championship,)" Woods wrote on Instagram. "It is disappointing that we will not be able to play in Japan this year, but Sherwood Country Club will be a great backdrop for what I know will be a great Championship."

The second annual tournament will not return to Accordia Golf Narashino Country Club in Chiba, Japan, this season due to the ongoing coronavirus pandemic. The event will still be played on its original dates, Oct. 22-25, despite the change in location.

The inaugural Zozo Championship in 2019 made history as Woods earned his 82nd PGA Tour win, tying Sam Snead's record.

The 44-year-old's 82nd win is also his most recent victory on Tour. Since that win, Woods competed in seven Tour events, finishing fourth at the Hero World Challenge, T-9 at the Farmers Insurance Open and 68th at the Genesis Invitational. After the Tour paused its season in March due to the coronavirus pandemic, Woods competed in four Tour events. His best finish was a T-37 at the PGA Championship. He missed the cut for the Tour Championship after finishing T-51 at the BMW Championship.

Last season, Woods also served as captain on the winning Presidents Cup team in December and defeated Phil Mickelson and Tom Brady in "The Match: Champions for Charity" alongside Peyton Manning.

The 15-time major champion most recently missed the cut at the U.S. Open after shooting rounds of 73-77 at Winged Foot.

The 2020 Zozo Championship is part of a three-event swing on the West Coast in October. The Zozo follows two events in Las Vegas: the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open at TPC Summerlin, Oct. 8-11 and the CJ Cup at Shadow Creek, Oct. 15-18.

The Zozo Championship is expected to return to Japan in 2021. ***(AP/NBC)***

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East	W	L	Pct	GB
y-Tampa Bay	37	20	.649	0.0
x-NY Yankees	32	24	.571	4.5
Toronto	29	27	.518	7.5
Baltimore	23	33	.411	13.5
Boston	22	34	.393	14.5
Central				
x-Minnesota	35	22	.614	0.0
x-Chi White Sox	34	22	.607	0.5
x-Cleveland	32	24	.571	2.5
Kansas City	23	33	.411	11.5
Detroit	22	32	.407	11.5
West				
y-Oakland	34	21	.618	0.0
Houston	28	28	.500	6.5
LA Angels	26	31	.456	9.0
Seattle	25	31	.446	9.5
Texas	19	37	.339	15.5

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East				
y-Atlanta	34	22	.607	0.0
Miami	28	28	.500	6.0
Philadelphia	28	29	.491	6.5
NY Mets	25	31	.446	9.0
Washington	23	33	.411	11.0
Central				
x-Chi Cubs	32	24	.571	0.0
St. Louis	27	26	.509	3.5
Cincinnati	29	28	.509	3.5
Milwaukee	27	28	.491	4.5
Pittsburgh	17	39	.304	15.0
West				
y-LA Dodgers	39	17	.696	0.0
x-San Diego	34	22	.607	5.0
San Francisco	28	27	.509	10.5
Colorado	24	31	.436	14.5
Arizona	22	34	.393	17.0

x- clinched playoff spot
y- clinched division

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Serena chases history in French Open

PARIS—Serena Williams' latest quest to make history begins when the curtain rises on the French Open at Roland Garros next week.

While a Grand Slam brings enormous pressure for all, the weight of expectation is greater on Williams than anyone else in her sport, with speculation renewed as to whether she can equal Australian Margaret Court's record 24 major titles.

With world No. 1 and title holder Ash Barty plus 2019 and 2020 U.S. Open winners Bianca Andreescu and Naomi Osaka out of the tournament, the French Open could see plenty of surprises and a chance for Williams to pounce.

However, the ninth-ranked American, who has won at Roland Garros three times, most recently in 2015, also faces plenty of obstacles.

Her quest for 24 continues on clay—her least productive surface—where Romania's Italian Open winner Simona Halep, Spain's Garbine Muguruza and U.S. Open semi-final foe Victoria Azarenka of Belarus could all present a major challenge.

Williams must also make a quick switch from hard court to clay, after an Achilles injury kept her out of the Rome event.

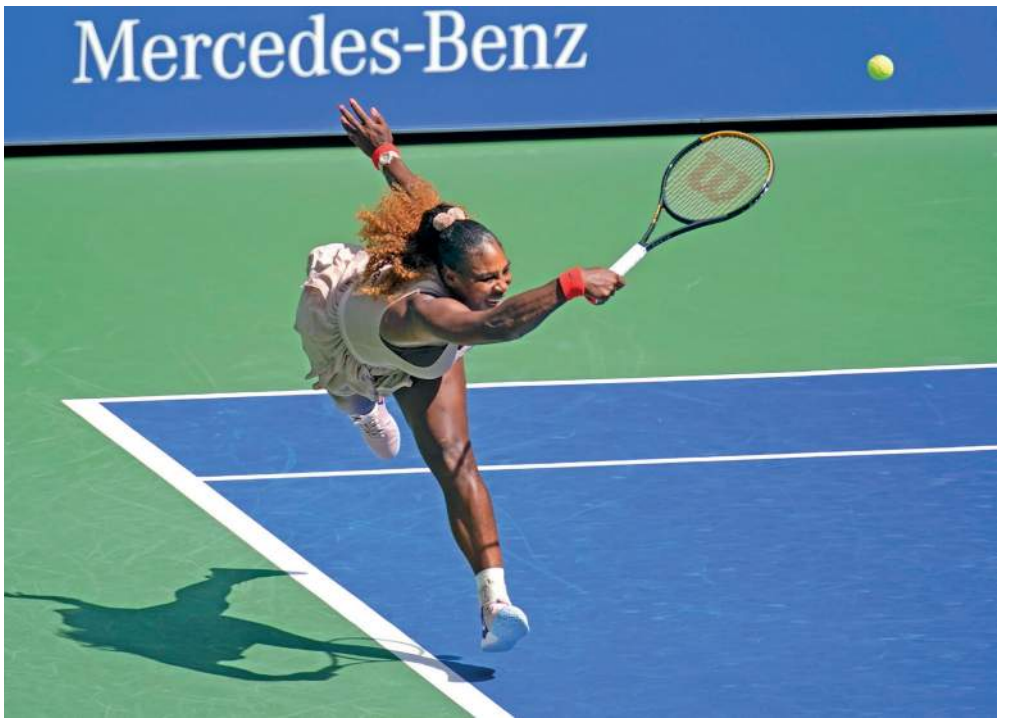
She has come close to winning a 24th major on several occasions, reaching the finals in four since she returned from maternity leave in 2018 but coming up short each time.

Her most recent bid ended at the hands of her long-time rival Azarenka, who triumphed after taming early nerves in a three-set U.S. Open battle earlier this month. Azarenka went on to lose in the final to Japan's Osaka.

Speaking to reporters at Flushing Meadows, Williams had said she tried to embrace the pressure of chasing records.

"As Billie Jean King said, 'Pressure is a privilege'. So I wouldn't want it any other way," said Williams, who will be 39 when the French Open women's singles main draw begins.

"So I just try to think about how fortunate I am to have been in this position, and honestly, to be Serena. It feels weird to say that."



AP
Serena Williams returns a shot to Victoria Azarenka during a semi-final match of the US Open tennis championships, Thursday, Sept. 10, 2020, in New York.

But Williams' powerful serve and fearsome backhand, which were on full display at Arthur Ashe Stadium, could once again level the field and confirm she is a perennial contender.

"As I said always, many girls from the top 10, top 15 have a chance to win a Grand Slam," Halep, who defeated Williams at Wimbledon in 2019, told reporters this week. "Roland Garros is very open because it's clay court but it's a little bit faster (than other clay courts), so also the big hitters can win it easy."

Surface switch

Williams bypassed any clay-court tuneup tournaments ahead of the French Open, so her first match at Roland Garros will be her first competition since the U.S. Open.

Dominic Thiem won the U.S. Open and decided to rest at home for a bit before heading to Paris.

Halep skipped the trip to New York's hard courts altogether and has been playing exclusively— and extremely well—on clay since tennis resumed after its pandemic hiatus.

Rafael Nadal sat out the U.S. Open, too, but he only has played three matches on his favorite surface in all of 2020, hardly the sort of run-up to Roland Garros the King of Clay is used to.

"A completely special year," he said after a quarterfinal loss in Rome last week, "and unpredictable year."

And Novak Djokovic? He traveled to the United States, won the Western & Southern Open and experienced a tumultuous exit from the U.S. Open via disqualification, then flew back halfway around the world and won the Italian Open, which he probably considers perfect preparation for the year's last Grand Slam tournament.

"Well, it is unusual to be in these kind of circumstances, but at the same time, we are—I am, and I know most of the players are—thankful that we have a chance and opportunity to play and compete and be on the tour," said Djokovic, who will be seeded No. 1 at the French Open.

He is bidding for a second title there and 18th Grand Slam trophy overall, which would move him within two of Roger Federer's record for men and one behind second-place Nadal. (Federer is sidelined for the rest of the season after two operations on his right knee.)

"It's just very close after an exhausting month of tennis in (the) States on a different surface (to) come back and play ... on a different surface, different continent," Djokovic said. "It's very challenging."

All players needed to make their own decisions about how to approach this once-in-a-lifetime —let's hope so, anyway—year and the coronavirus-altered tennis calendar, with the quick switches from North America to Europe and from hard courts to clay that no one is used to managing quite this way.

FIGHT

From Page 24

it will take two to three weeks to get back into that fighting shape," the 31-year-old said.

Before COVID-19 hit him, Camacho was supposed to duel Brok "Chata Tuska" Weaver in the UFC Fight Night 177 at the UFC Apex in Las Vegas last Sept. 12. The UFC Fight Night 177 was one of the two events the Ultimate Fighting Championship has scheduled for this month in Las Vegas with the other one, the UFC 253: Adesanya vs Costa set for Sept. 27. The next five UFC events will then move to Yas Island in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates.

"People from my managing agency (Iridium Sports Agency) are on their way to Abu Dhabi and I'm still waiting word from them. Personally, I don't want to go to Abu Dhabi and would prefer fighting in Las Vegas, probably second or first week of November. We'll see what happens," Camacho said.

UFC has lined up four competitions for November, with the first two slated for Nov. 7 and 14 an the last scheduled for Nov. 21 and 28.

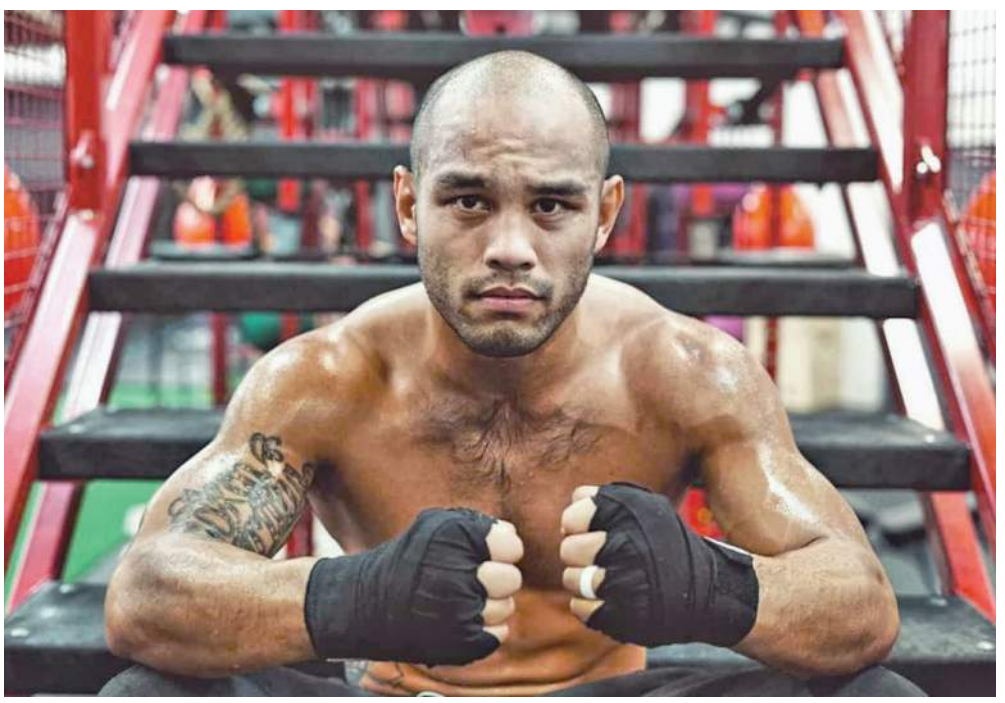
As for his opponent, Camacho said he wouldn't mind fighting Weaver, but it's up to the UFC. He added that he has yet to decide whether to return to Guam or stay in California while waiting for his fight—the last in his second contract with UFC.

Meanwhile, Camacho thanked all the people who supported him in his bout with COVID-19.

"The support I got was just phenomenal. I received a lot of encouraging messages from Saipan, Tinian, Rota, Guam, and those in the mainland who have roots from the Marianas. I just felt so blessed to have family, friends, coaches, and teammates behind me. Thank you so much," the Team Oyama standout said.

After surviving COVID-19, Camacho reiterated the need to stay vigilant and responsible at this time of the pandemic.

"Own up to our health, don't stress out to things we can't control. Stay active, hydrated, take our vitamins, and have enough rest. We must also be responsible, not only for ourselves, but for others, especially those who are more vulnerable to the virus. Wear our mask, wash our hands, and watch our distance."



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Frank "The Crank" Camacho is COVID-free and will get ready for his return to the Ultimate Fighting Championship stage in November.

HERRO

From Page 24

opposite for Herro. It turned out that while everyone was hunkering indoors to help curb the spread of the coronavirus, Herro actually found an empty high school gym near where he lived and used the three-month NBA hiatus to hone his basketball skills.

But practice can only get you so far and what separates Herro from the rest of the pack is his mental toughness as no moment seems too big for him. Perhaps, getting death threats and being regarded as public enemy No. 1 in your home state will do that to you. It's been well documented that the Whitnall High School alum was vilified immediately after he de-committed from the University of Wisconsin to play for coach Cal at Lexington.

Credit also goes to the Miami Heat organization in developing Herro and also Jimmy Butler for allowing him to shine bright in the big stage of the Eastern Conference finals. Heat president Pat Riley's organization always prides itself on being the toughest, best conditioned, and hardest-working in the Association.

Heat culture is best exemplified by Butler, a late first round draft pick by the Chicago Bulls who worked himself to become a superstar. But unlike other superstars (see Carmelo Anthony during Linsanity), Butler doesn't mind being upstaged by players like Herro. In fact, he relishes the fact that he makes players around him better and prioritizes team success over individual accolades.

At this point of the NBA season and also largely due to his performance, Herro shouldn't be considered a rookie anymore. In Game 4, coach Brad Stevens simply failed to game-plan against Herro and the Celtics paid dearly for it. In Game 3, Stevens solved the Dragic puzzle by assigning Marcus Smart to the Slovenian. It worked as the 2020 NBA All-Defensive Team member limited Gogi to just 11 points.

Smart could still be an option against Herro in Game 5, but doing so might just unleash The Dragon, who still wound up with 22 points in Game 4. In fact, Dragic was one of four Heat players to score 20 or more points that game (the others being Jimmy Buckets with 24 points and Bam Adebayo with 20 points), as coach Spo shortened his rotation.

So what's Herro's ceiling? Some say he plays like his idol Devin Booker of the Phoenix Suns, but Herro is a more adept and creative passer than his fellow Kentucky alum. He actually has some Pistol Pete Maravich in him. I could be wrong, but if he has a career that somehow approximates the Hall of Famer's, then the Heat's future is firmly secured. I just hope the platitudes I showered on Herro and the Miami Heat in this column wouldn't jinx them in the next game. Let's go Heat!

He's a Herro: Heat near NBA Finals

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Rays edge Yanks in battle for AL East title

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'The Crank' beats COVID, eyes Nov. fight

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

One down, one to go for Frank "The Crank" Camacho.

The Marianas warrior won his battle against COVID-19 after his recent test yielded negative results, giving Camacho clearance to return to training with his fellow MMA fighters at Team Oyama in Irvine, California.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
In this file photo, Frank "The Crank" Camacho, left, ducks and hits Australia's Damien Brown during their bout in UFC Fight Night 121 in Sydney in 2017. Camacho won via split decision and and will be looking for victory No. 3 in UFC when he returns to the octagon cage in November.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Frank "The Crank" Camacho, extreme right, enjoys a light moment with his Team Oyama teammates before resuming his training session yesterday in California.

"It was tough, but I am thankful I KO'ed COVID-19. I got tested last night (Wednesday morning on Saipan) and results came out negative, so I had my first training today (yesterday). After my 10-day isolation, I had no symptoms, but I want to make sure. The last thing I want is to spread the virus to my teammates if I still have it and I am just asymptomatic," said Camacho.

With his battle against COVID-19 over, Camacho will now focus on getting ready for his fight—possibly in November this year.

"Nothing is set in stone yet, but we're looking at the November timeline and to fight in Las Vegas again. I definitely need to restart my training and

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Herro ball

MARKSMAN
By MARK RABAGO
Associate Editor

Growing up Mark wanted to play pro basketball. When his talent and height didn't measure up, he opted for a career in journalism instead.

Tyler Herro is really the Baby Goat and proved it when he went deep into his bag of tricks in leading the Miami Heat to a Game 4 victory against the Boston Celtics yesterday. The 6'5" gunslinger scored 37 points on a variety of pull-up jumpers, 3-pointers, and slick drives to the basket to bury the Celtics in a 3-1 hole in their best-of-7 series in the NBA Eastern Conference finals.

Herro is built for postseason success. This rookie is poise personified and nothing seems to faze him. The first time I saw Herro was over a year ago when he was still suiting up for coach John Calipari's Kentucky Wildcats. I thought to myself, "boy, this Herro guy would sure look good in a Heat uniform." Fast-forward to the 2019 NBA Draft last June when Miami picked him 13th overall. The drip (slang for sense of style) was real and the Heat had their new hero.

At first, coach Eric Spoelstra seemed more enamored on undrafted rookie Kendrick Nunn as he even started the combo guard, while Herro played off the pine. Nunn was spectacular in the regular season and was even touted as a Rookie of the Year candidate before finishing second to eventual 2020 NBA ROY Ja Morant of the Memphis Grizzlies. Nunn, however, tested positive for COVID-19 prior to the NBA restart in the Orlando bubble and eventually lost his starting job to veteran Goran Dragic.

While Nunn has struggled to find traction in the seeding games and in the playoffs, it was the exact

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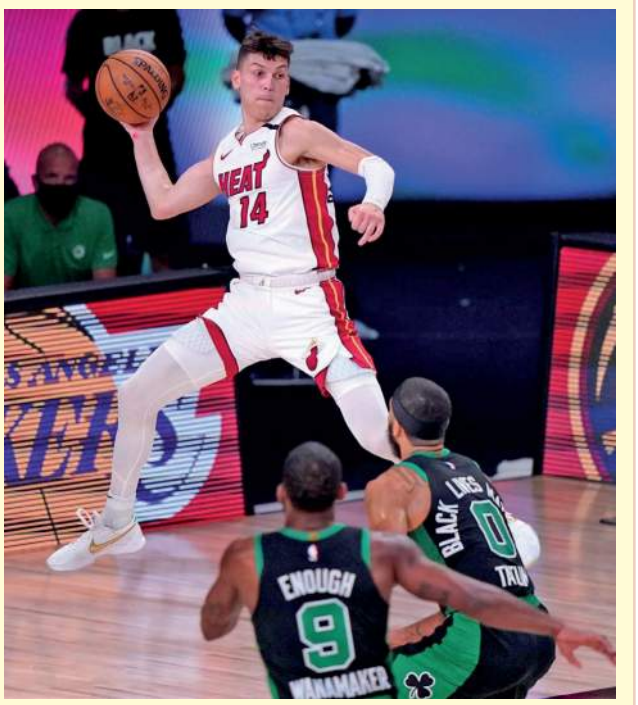

AP
Miami Heat guard Tyler Herro (14) leaps to make a pass over Boston Celtics' Kemba Walker (8) and Brad Wanamaker (9) during the second half of an NBA conference final playoff game, Thursday, Sept. 17, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla.